

House Study Bill 779 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON NORDMAN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the definition of a religious institution
2 or society for purposes of property taxation and including
3 applicability provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 427.1, subsection 8, Code 2026, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *c.* For purposes of this section, "*religious*
4 *institution or society*" includes but is not limited to any of
5 the following:

6 (1) A church or other house of worship.

7 (2) A convention or association of churches or other houses
8 of worship.

9 (3) A religious nonprofit corporation organized under
10 chapter 504 primarily for religious purposes regardless of
11 whether it is integrated or affiliated with a church or other
12 house of worship.

13 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to assessment years
14 beginning on or after January 1, 2027.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 Under current law, certain property of religious
19 institutions and societies are exempt from property taxation.
20 This bill defines "religious institution or society" to include
21 but not be limited to: (1) a church or other house of worship;
22 (2) a convention or association of churches or other houses of
23 worship; or (3) a religious nonprofit corporation organized
24 under Code chapter 504 operated primarily for religious
25 purposes, regardless of whether it is integrated or affiliated
26 with a church or other house of worship.

27 The bill applies to assessment years beginning on or after
28 January 1, 2027.