

Senate File 2377 - Reprinted

SENATE FILE 2377

BY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2202)

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3067)

(As Amended and Passed by the Senate March 29, 2022)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to education, including eligibility for grants
2 under the teach Iowa scholar program, licenses issued by the
3 board of educational examiners, and the use of revenues from
4 the district management levy, and including applicability
5 provisions.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.16, subsection 1, Code 2022, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *n.* If a higher education institution
4 providing practitioner preparation offers a program that is
5 designed to assist students in attaining a teacher intern
6 license from the board of educational examiners, the program
7 shall require participants to satisfy all of the following
8 requirements before completing the program:

9 (1) A participant in the program must have graduated from
10 an accredited or state-approved college or university and must
11 meet the requirements for an endorsement area approved by the
12 board of educational examiners for a teacher intern license.

13 (2) A participant in the program must have at least three
14 years of post-baccalaureate work experience.

15 (3) A participant in the program must submit with the
16 application to the program a copy of an offer of employment
17 from a school.

18 (4) A participant in the program must have completed the
19 required pedagogy training.

20 (5) A participant in the program must work under the
21 supervision of a teacher leader assigned by the school district
22 or accredited nonpublic school, including during co-teaching
23 and planning time.

24 (6) A participant in the program must complete at least
25 fifteen additional hours of coursework.

26 Sec. 2. Section 261.110, subsection 3, paragraphs a and b,
27 Code 2022, are amended to read as follows:

28 *a.* The applicant was in the top ~~twenty-five~~ thirty percent
29 academically of students exiting a teacher preparation program
30 approved by the state board of education pursuant to section
31 256.7, subsection 3, or a similar teacher preparation program
32 in another state, or had earned other comparable academic
33 credentials.

34 *b.* The applicant is preparing to ~~teach in fields including~~
35 ~~but not limited to science, technology, engineering, or~~

~~1 mathematics; English as a second language or special education
2 instruction; or is preparing to teach in a hard-to-staff
3 subject as identified by the department. The department shall
4 take into account the varying regional needs in the state for
5 teachers in these subject areas when applying the criterion
6 of this paragraph. The department shall annually identify
7 and designate hard-to-staff subjects for the purpose of this
8 paragraph. The eligibility of an applicant who receives a
9 teach Iowa scholar grant and who is preparing to teach in a
10 hard-to-staff subject as identified by the department shall
11 not be affected in subsequent years if the department does not
12 continue to identify that subject as a hard-to-staff subject
13 become a teacher who provides classroom instruction.~~

14 Sec. 3. Section 261.110, subsection 3, Code 2022, is amended
15 by adding the following new paragraph:

16 NEW PARAGRAPH. *d.* The total value of grants awarded under
17 this section each year to applicants who are preparing to
18 teach in a school district, charter school, or an accredited
19 nonpublic school shall be as follows:

20 (1) Fifty percent shall be awarded to applicants preparing
21 to teach in a school district with less than or equal to one
22 thousand two hundred students, a charter school with less than
23 or equal to one thousand two hundred students, or an accredited
24 nonpublic school with less than or equal to one thousand
25 two hundred students. However, if the amount requested by
26 applicants pursuant to subparagraph (2) is less than the amount
27 reserved for applicants under subparagraph (2), the commission
28 may award the difference to applicants under this subparagraph.

29 (2) Fifty percent shall be awarded to applicants preparing
30 to teach in a school district with greater than one thousand
31 two hundred students, a charter school with greater than one
32 thousand two hundred students, or an accredited nonpublic
33 school with greater than one thousand two hundred students.
34 However, if the amount requested by applicants pursuant
35 to subparagraph (1) is less than the amount reserved for

1 applicants under subparagraph (1), the commission may award the
2 difference to applicants under this subparagraph.

3 Sec. 4. Section 272.2, subsection 1, Code 2022, is amended
4 by adding the following new paragraph:

5 NEW PARAGRAPH. *d.* Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection
6 establishing criteria for applicants for licenses who have
7 completed an accredited or state-approved teacher preparation
8 program and who are applying for the applicant's first Iowa
9 teaching license shall not require the applicant to be an Iowa
10 resident if the applicant provides the board with a copy of an
11 offer of employment as a teacher from a school located in this
12 state.

13 Sec. 5. Section 272.2, subsection 13, Code 2022, is amended
14 to read as follows:

15 13. Adopt rules to provide for nontraditional preparation
16 options for licensing persons who hold a bachelor's degree
17 or higher from an accredited or state-approved college or
18 university, who do not meet other requirements for licensure.
19 The rules shall, at a minimum, require the board to do all of
20 the following:

21 a. Issue a teacher intern license for instruction in grades
22 six through twelve to an applicant who has enrolled in a
23 program established pursuant to section 256.16, subsection 1,
24 paragraph "n".

25 b. Allow a licensee who has attained a teacher intern
26 license pursuant to paragraph "a" to apply for an initial
27 teaching license if the school that employed the licensee
28 during the licensee's completion of the program established
29 pursuant to section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph "n", and
30 the higher education institution that operated the program,
31 recommend that the licensee be allowed to apply for an initial
32 teaching license.

33 Sec. 6. Section 272.2, Code 2022, is amended by adding the
34 following new subsection:

35 NEW SUBSECTION. 27. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter

1 17A that allow an individual seeking a career and technical
2 secondary authorization to apply, and if eligible, be issued
3 the secondary authorization prior to accepting an offer of
4 employment with a school.

5 Sec. 7. Section 279.46, Code 2022, is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 **279.46 Retirement incentives and teacher recruitment**
8 **incentives — tax.**

9 1. The board of directors of a school district may adopt
10 a program for payment of a monetary bonus, continuation of
11 health or medical insurance coverage, or other incentives
12 for encouraging its employees to retire before the normal
13 retirement date as defined in [chapter 97B](#). The program is
14 available only to employees who notify the board of directors
15 prior to April 1 of the fiscal year that they intend to retire
16 not later than the start of the next following school calendar.
17 The age at which employees shall be designated eligible for the
18 program shall be at the discretion of the board. An employee
19 retiring under ~~this section~~ [this subsection](#) may apply for a
20 retirement allowance under [chapter 97B](#) or [chapter 294](#). The
21 board may include in the district management levy an amount to
22 pay the total estimated accumulated cost to the school district
23 of the health or medical insurance coverage, bonus, or other
24 incentives for employees fifty-five years of age or older who
25 retire under ~~this section~~ [subsection](#).

26 2. a. The board of directors of a school district
27 may adopt a program for teacher recruitment incentives to
28 recruit new teachers. If the board does adopt a program
29 for teacher recruitment incentives, the board shall adopt a
30 policy to implement the program. Under the program, the board
31 of directors of a school district shall not do any of the
32 following:

33 (1) Pay a teacher a teacher recruitment incentive that
34 annually exceeds ten percent of the amount of the salary for
35 an initial teacher established pursuant to section 284.15,

1 subsection 2, paragraph "a", subparagraph (1).

2 (2) Pay a teacher a teacher recruitment incentive in more
3 than five school budget years.

4 b. The board may include in the district management levy
5 an amount to pay the total estimated accumulated cost to the
6 school district of the teacher recruitment incentives adopted
7 under this subsection.

8 3. The board shall adopt either the program for early
9 retirement benefits provided in subsection 1 or the program for
10 teacher recruitment incentives provided in subsection 2, but
11 shall not adopt both concurrently. After adopting a program,
12 the board may change programs, but only after at least five
13 years.

14 4. The board of directors of a school district shall
15 discuss the adoption of the program for early retirement
16 benefits provided in subsection 1 or the program for teacher
17 recruitment incentives provided in subsection 2, as applicable,
18 at a regular or special meeting prior to adopting the program.
19 The board of directors of the school district shall provide
20 sufficient time to receive public comment on the program. The
21 board shall allow each interested member of the public to speak
22 at the meeting regarding the program, but may impose a time
23 limit on the amount of time a member of the public is allowed
24 to speak if the time limit is the same for each speaker and
25 necessary due to the amount of people wishing to speak. The
26 board of directors of a school district shall not adopt the
27 program for early retirement benefits provided in subsection
28 1 concurrently with the program for teacher recruitment
29 incentives provided in subsection 2.

30 Sec. 8. Section 298.4, subsection 1, paragraph e, Code 2022,
31 is amended to read as follows:

32 e. To pay the cost of early retirement benefits to employees
33 under [section 279.46](#), subsection 1, or teacher recruitment
34 incentives under [section 279.46](#), subsection 2. A board of
35 directors of a school district shall not expend the district

1 management levy on the costs of both programs in the same
2 fiscal year.

3 Sec. 9. APPLICABILITY. The following applies to grants
4 awarded by the college student aid commission on or after July
5 1, 2022, to initial applicants under the teach Iowa scholar
6 program established pursuant to section 261.110:

7 The sections of this Act amending section 261.110.

8 Sec. 10. APPLICABILITY. The following apply to school
9 budget years beginning July 1, 2023:

10 1. The section of this Act amending section 279.46.

11 2. The section of this Act amending section 298.4.