



# IOWA

## Department of Education

Ann Lebo, Director

Kim Reynolds, Governor  
Adam Gregg, Lt. Governor

### **Technical Code Corrections/Clarifications**

#### **273.3 Duties and Powers of Area Education Agency Board**

Current statute authorizes AEA boards, subject to the approval of the state board of education or its designee, to lease, purchase, or lease purchase and to receive by gift and operate and maintain facilities and buildings necessary to provide authorized programs and services. However, items with an annual cost of less than \$25,000 are not subject to state board approval. This threshold has not increased since it was first established in 1982, which has led to an increase in items for which AEAs must first seek approval. Using commonly found inflation calculators (example), purchasing power of \$25,000 in 1982 would equate to about \$68,000 in 2020.

To reduce the burden on AEAs, the Department proposes to increase the threshold for AEA capital projects requiring state board approval from \$25,000 to \$70,000.

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*Background statement  
for attachment to bill draft.*

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