

JAN 9 2006

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2008

BY MURPHY

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the development and implementation of a  
2 citizenship grade by the board of directors of a school  
3 district.

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

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1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 279.63 CITIZENSHIP GRADE.

2 1. The board of directors of a school district shall  
3 prescribe procedures for the establishment and implementation  
4 of a citizenship grade for students enrolled in grades seven  
5 through twelve in a manner that makes evident the connection  
6 between academic achievement, attitude, and individual  
7 responsibility. The board shall appoint an advisory committee  
8 to assist the board in determining a set of behavioral  
9 standards by which students will be assessed and graded. The  
10 members of the advisory committee shall include, but shall not  
11 be limited to, licensed practitioners, parents, and a  
12 representative from the local area education agency. The  
13 board shall adopt, giving due consideration to the  
14 recommendations of the advisory committee, a set of standards  
15 to be used to assess and grade a student's behavior. The  
16 board shall periodically examine the efficacy of the  
17 citizenship grade and make adjustments as needed in accordance  
18 with this section.

19 2. Commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2006,  
20 the board of directors of a school district shall provide for  
21 the assessment of a student's behavior against the standards  
22 adopted by the board pursuant to subsection 1, and shall  
23 include the behavioral assessment in the student's report  
24 card, portfolio, or other periodic assessment of the student's  
25 achievement.

26 Sec. 2. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance  
27 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring  
28 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall  
29 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid  
30 received by the school district under section 257.16. This  
31 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed  
32 to meet all the state funding-related requirements of section  
33 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall be  
34 necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and  
35 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

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EXPLANATION

This bill directs school district boards of directors to prescribe procedures for the establishment and implementation of a citizenship grade for students enrolled in grades 7 through 12.

Each board must adopt a set of standards for assessing and grading a student's behavior, periodically examine the efficacy of the citizenship grade and make adjustments as needed, and appoint an advisory committee, including licensed practitioners, parents, and a representative from the local area education agency, to assist in determining a set of behavioral standards by which students will be assessed and graded.

Commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2006, the board must assess each student's behavior against the standards and must include the assessment in the student's report card, portfolio, or other periodic assessment of the student's achievement.

The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid received by the school district under Code section 257.16.