

FILED MAR 7 2005

SENATE FILE 297
BY CONNOLLY

EDUCATION

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the establishment of an Iowa educator
2 professional growth program, making an appropriation, and
3 including effective and applicability date provisions.

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

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SF 297

EDUCATION

1 Section 1. Section 257.8, Code 2005, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 4A. ALTERNATE ALLOWABLE GROWTH --
4 PROFESSIONAL GROWTH FUND.

5 a. Notwithstanding the calculation in subsection 2, the
6 department of management shall calculate the regular program
7 allowable growth for the budget year beginning July 1, 2005,
8 by multiplying the state percent of growth for the budget year
9 by the regular program state cost per pupil for the base year,
10 and add to the resulting product ten dollars. For purposes of
11 determining the amount of a budget adjustment as defined in
12 section 257.14, ten dollars shall be subtracted from the
13 school district's regular program cost per pupil for the
14 budget year beginning July 1, 2005, prior to determining the
15 amount of the adjustment.

16 b. A school district shall calculate allowable growth
17 pursuant to the provisions of subsection 2 for the budget year
18 beginning July 1, 2006, and succeeding budget years, utilizing
19 a regular program state cost per pupil figure which
20 incorporates the ten dollar increase in regular program
21 allowable growth calculated for the budget year beginning July
22 1, 2005.

23 c. Amounts generated by the ten dollar addition to
24 allowable growth for the budget year beginning July 1, 2005,
25 pursuant to this section shall be utilized exclusively by
26 school districts for professional growth programs and
27 opportunities pursuant to section 257.51.

28 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 257.51 IOWA EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL
29 GROWTH PROGRAM.

30 1. An Iowa educator professional growth program is
31 established, to be administered by the department of
32 education. The objective of the program shall be to make
33 available professional growth opportunities to primary and
34 secondary school teachers on an annual basis. The
35 opportunities shall be modeled after or reflect best practices

1 relating to proven quality teaching instruction techniques
2 tailored to a teacher's specific grade level and area of
3 instruction. Boards of school districts, individually or
4 jointly with the boards of other school districts, shall
5 annually submit program plans for educator professional growth
6 opportunities to the department. The department shall develop
7 guidelines for the development of the programs, and provide
8 assistance either through direct sponsorship of some programs
9 of instruction in coordination with the board of educational
10 examiners or by providing consultation services to individual
11 school districts or combinations of school districts.

12 2. The budget for the Iowa educator professional growth
13 program shall be funded annually by the ten dollar increase in
14 allowable growth for the school budget year beginning July 1,
15 2005, increased by the growth of the regular program district
16 cost each year, pursuant to section 257.8, subsection 4A. The
17 proportion of a school district's budget which corresponds to
18 the ten dollar increase in allowable growth for the school
19 budget year beginning July 1, 2005, shall be utilized
20 exclusively for a school district's educator professional
21 growth program. The funds utilized shall supplement, and not
22 supplant, teacher compensation and career development funding
23 pursuant to section 284.7, and amounts otherwise available to
24 a school district for such purposes.

25 Sec. 3. APPLICABILITY DATE. This Act, being deemed of
26 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment for the
27 computation of state school aid for school budget years
28 beginning on or after July 1, 2005.

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill provides for the establishment of an Iowa
31 educator professional growth program to be funded by an
32 increase in the allowable growth dollar amount for a specified
33 budget year.

34 The bill provides that the department of management shall
35 calculate the regular program allowable growth for the budget

1 year beginning July 1, 2005, by multiplying the state percent
2 of growth for the budget year by the regular program state
3 cost per pupil for the base year and adding \$10 to the
4 resulting product. The bill provides that the additional \$10
5 per pupil shall be subtracted from the school district's
6 regular program cost per pupil for the budget year beginning
7 July 1, 2005, in determining the amount of a school district's
8 budget adjustment for purposes of the school budget guarantee
9 pursuant to Code section 257.14. The bill provides that a
10 school district shall calculate allowable growth for the
11 school budget year beginning July 1, 2006, and succeeding
12 budget years, utilizing a regular program state cost per pupil
13 figure which incorporates the \$10 increase in regular program
14 allowable growth.

15 The bill additionally provides that amounts generated by
16 the \$10 addition to allowable growth shall be utilized
17 exclusively by school districts for professional growth
18 programs and opportunities pursuant to new Code section
19 257.51. That Code section establishes an Iowa educator
20 professional growth program to be administered by the
21 department of education. The bill provides that the objective
22 of the program shall be to make available professional growth
23 opportunities to primary and secondary school teachers on an
24 annual basis. The bill provides that school boards shall
25 individually or jointly annually submit program plans for
26 educator professional growth opportunities to the department,
27 and that the department shall develop guidelines for the
28 development of the programs, and provide assistance either
29 through direct sponsorship of some programs in coordination
30 with the board of educational examiners or by providing
31 consultation services.

32 The bill provides that the funds shall supplement, and not
33 supplant, amounts otherwise available to a school district for
34 teacher compensation and professional growth purposes.

35 The bill takes effect upon enactment and is applicable for

1 computation of state school aid for school budget years
2 beginning on or after July 1, 2005.

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