

House File 522 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 522
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 114)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the therapeutic classroom incentive program
2 by authorizing the expenditure of moneys for certain
3 nutritional items.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.25, subsection 7, Code 2025, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 7. For purposes of this section, "*therapeutic classroom*"
4 means a classroom designed for the purpose of providing support
5 for any student whose emotional, social, or behavioral needs
6 interfere with the student's ability to be successful in the
7 current educational environment, with or without supports,
8 until the student is able to successfully return to the
9 student's current education environment, with or without
10 supports, including but not limited to the general education
11 classroom. The support provided by a therapeutic classroom may
12 include all of the following:

- 13 a. Supporting student access to micronutrients, vitamin
14 supplementation, and mineral supplementation, including vitamin
15 "D" and vitamin "K2".
- 16 b. Assessing the macro-nutritional needs of students.
- 17 c. Providing minimally processed whole foods, including
18 fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and healthy animal-derived fats
19 and proteins, including eggs, full-fat dairy products, beef,
20 and bacon.
- 21 d. Restricting the use and availability of artificial or
22 synthetic food additives that may have an adverse effect on
23 activity and attention in students.
- 24 e. Remediating the negative impacts of excessive use of
25 digital screens and devices on human biology.
- 26 f. Increasing student exposure to natural light or the light
27 emitted by full spectrum lighting fixtures.
- 28 g. Carrying out any other scientifically supported
29 initiative that a school district reasonably believes will
30 improve emotional, social, and behavioral health outcomes among
31 students.

32 EXPLANATION

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

35 This bill relates to the therapeutic classroom incentive

1 program by authorizing the expenditure of moneys for certain
2 nutritional items. The therapeutic classroom incentive
3 program, administered by the department of education, provides
4 competitive grants to school districts to establish classrooms
5 that are designed for the purpose of providing support for any
6 student whose emotional, social, or behavioral needs interfere
7 with the student's ability to be successful in the current
8 educational environment, with or without supports, until the
9 student is able to successfully return to the student's current
10 education environment, with or without supports, including
11 the general education classroom. The bill provides that
12 the support provided by a therapeutic classroom may include
13 supporting student access to micronutrients and vitamins,
14 assessing the macro-nutritional needs of students, providing
15 minimally processed whole foods, restricting the use and
16 availability of certain artificial or synthetic food additives,
17 remediating the negative impacts of excessive use of digital
18 screens, increasing student exposure to natural light or the
19 light emitted by full spectrum lighting fixtures, and carrying
20 out any other scientifically supported initiative that a school
21 district reasonably believes will improve student health.