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HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill: Senate File 470
Committee: Education
Bill Manager: Rep. Byrnes
Date: March 21, 2011
Staff: Jason Chapman (1-3015)

Community College Omnibus Bill

(Substituted for HF 586) This bill makes several changes related to community colleges. It strikes reference to the “state board of community colleges” as the state board of education fills this role. It clarifies and/or codifies current practice as it relates to the confidential transfer of student records among educational entities. It codifies a currently occurring “Annual Condition of Community Colleges” report. It strikes duties currently being filled by the Department of Economic Development. It also deals with instructor class load and providers of OWI courses.

Summary of Action

The Senate **PASSED** SF 470 on March 14, 2011, by a vote of 49-0.
The House **PASSED** SF 470, as amended, on March 22, 2011, by a vote of 93-0.
The Senate **CONCURRED** in the House amendment on March 23, 2011, by a vote of 48-0.
The Governor **SIGNED** SF 470 on April 5, 2011.

Section by Section Analysis

Sections 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 13, and 14 These sections replace references to the state board of community colleges with the state board of education, as one does not exist separate from the state board education.

Section 3 Amends Open Records chapter regarding confidential records to clarify and codify the current and legal practice of record transfer between educational entities.

Section 4 Updates the code to reflect current practice of the new jobs training program. The requirement for the department to establish rules and to report are struck because the rules are already in place with the Dept of Economic Development and they are currently reporting to the General Assembly.

Section 5 Statutorily creates a report already being created annually titled “Annual Condition of Community Colleges.” The report is due to the general assembly on or before February 1.

Section 6 Removes a requirement that the Community College Council develop a strategic plan through the department of education.

Section 7 Changes a fee that has been in place since 1981. Currently set at \$5, this change allows the state board to set a fee that reflects the actual cost of production and distribution. This change is for issuance of GEDs and transcripts.

Section 9 This change allows for a community college instructor to have additional teaching assignments that are agreed to by the instructor and the community college, not to exceed 22 credit hours. This recommendation is the result of an advisory committee which met pursuant to SF 2088 from 2010.

Section 12 Amends Senior Year Plus by striking a subsection dealing with parent transportation provided to a student enrolled in Senior Year Plus. It was included in the original language by mistake. Districts receive supplementary weighting through the funding formula for transportation costs.

Sections 15 – 18 These changes will allow the department to approve out-of-state providers for mandated OWI courses if the course is comparable to the ones offered in Iowa.

Section 19 Repeals the section stating that the state board of education shall constitute the state board for community colleges. This is consistent with sections 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 13, and 14 of this bill.
