



HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2676	House Committee: PASSED 2/17/26 (14-7)
Committee:	Health and Human Services	House Floor:
Floor Manager:	Rep. Austin Harris	Senate Floor:
Date:	March 3, 2026	Governor:
Staff:	Natalie Ginty (281-7479)	

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- This bill comes from the Governor with the self-titled Make America Healthy Again bill, to do the following:
 - Requires nutrition continuing education for certain doctors and physician assistants. This section was a component of Iowa's RHTP application.
 - ~~Allows for additional health services to change without certificate of need approval, including replacement equipment, air transportation, open heart services, organ transplantation services, behavioral health outpatient services, and bed capacity changes. This section was a component of Iowa's RHTP application.~~
 - ~~Changes certificate of need process to a public comment period rather than a public hearing~~
 - Requires healthy foods for SNAP and summer EBT
 - Allows pharmacists to distribute ivermectin for human consumption as an over-the-counter medicine without liability
 - Prohibits schools from providing food and beverages with certain ingredients starting July 1, 2027 (section 20)
 - Requires Iowa to join the Psychology Compact with 43 states, including all states surrounding Iowa. This section was a component of Iowa's RHTP application.
- **Fiscal Note:**
 - If the state chooses to operate Summer EBT, there will be administrative costs to the state. In December 2023, it was estimated to cost \$2.2 million of state funds.
 - School districts may have increased meal item costs
 - One-time IT costs of \$148,000-\$216,000 to implement the PsychCompact

Section by Section Analysis

Division I – Continuing Education Requirements – Nutrition and Metabolic Health

Section 1 (Iowa Code 148.3)

Requires the Board of Medicine to adopt rules requiring 18 medical specialties (including family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry, and others) to complete a minimum of 1 hour of continuing education on nutrition and metabolic health every 4 years as a condition of license renewal.

Section 2 (Iowa Code 148C.3)

Requires the board of physician assistants to adopt rules requiring licensees practicing in the same 18 specialties to complete one hour of CE on nutrition and metabolic health every four years as a condition of licensure.

Division II – Certificate of Need

Sections 3-6 (Iowa Code 135.61, 135.62)

Strikes the following from the definition of “new institutional health service”:

- Expenditures in excess of \$500,000 for a service that was not offered on a regular basis over the last 12 months
- Replacement equipment in excess of \$1.5 million
- Air transportation service
- Open heart surgical service
- Organ transplantation service

Sections 7-9 (Iowa Code 135.62)

Conforming code changes based on later CON exclusions regarding bed changes

Section 10 (Iowa Code 135.62)

Adds additional exemptions from requiring certificate of need approval:

- Behavioral health outpatient services, including opiate addiction treatment centers
- Open heart surgical services
- Organ transplantation services
- Acquisition of any piece of replacement equipment with a value in excess of \$1.5 million
- Air transportation service
- Bed capacity changes

Section 11 (Iowa Code 135.62)

Removes the ICF/ID statewide bed limitation of 1,636 beds.

Sections 12-14 (Iowa code 135.65, 135.70)

Changes CON hearings instead to a time for written public comment submission.

Division III – SNAP – Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children Program

Section 15 (Iowa Code 234.1)

Defines “summer electronic benefits transfer for children program”.

Section 16 (Iowa Code 234.12B) – New Section

Requires DHHS to continuously maintain state participation in SNAP that specify that eligible foods are healthy foods as defined by the director or the director’s designee and that benefits to recipients are uninterrupted.

Allows DHHS to participate in the summer EBT program subject to federally approved eligible foods that are healthy foods.

Division IV – Ivermectin – Over-the-Counter Availability

Section 17 (Iowa Code 126.24) – New Section

Allows pharmacists to distribute ivermectin for human consumption as an over-the-counter medicine. The pharmacist is not subject to professional discipline/civil/criminal penalties for the distribution pursuant to this section.

Division V – School Foods and Beverages

Sections 18 and 19 (Iowa Code 256E.7, 256F.4)

Requires charter schools to comply with preparation of meals requirements and prohibited ingredients in meals provided to students if the charter school provides a breakfast or lunch program through the national school lunch program or the school breakfast program.

Sections 20 and 21 (Iowa Code 283A.6, 283A.10)

Prohibits a school district from serving a meal to students as a part of the breakfast or lunch program that contains blue dye 1 and 2, green dye 3, potassium bromate, propylparaben, red dye 40, yellow dye 5 and 6. This requirement does not apply to food and beverages received as part of a direct delivery from the foods in schools program. Prohibits an employee or vendor from providing these ingredients to a student enrolled in the school district during the school day.

Section 22 – Applicability

School years after July 1, 2027

Division VI – Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact

Section 23 (Iowa Code 147M.1)

Creates the psychology interjurisdictional compact. This section outlines licensure requirements, telepsychology requirements, adverse actions, regulatory authority, coordinated licensure information system, commission, oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement. 43 states are currently a part of PSYPACT with all states surrounding Iowa.

Amendment Analysis

H-8090 by Harris – Starting July 2028, this amendment requires Iowa medical school students to complete at least 40 hours of coursework on nutrition and metabolic health prior to graduation. **Revises the title.**

H-8063 by Harris – Strikes CON provisions in the bill since now CON is part of HF2635. This amendment also changes the language of the SNAP food restriction to provide for the ongoing application for the current SNAP taxable food restriction, additional foods may be added if communicated to retailers by UPC, and to implement upon federal approval.

H-8084 by Baeth – Strikes the healthy waiver requirements for SNAP and Summer EBT, and instead requires DHHS to continuously maintain state participation in summer EBT and prohibits the state from conditioning participation based on altering eligible foods.

H-8083 by Baeth – Strikes Division IV regarding Ivermectin.

H-8068 by Harris – Prohibits institutions of higher education (Board of Regents, Community Colleges, and Private Institutions) and their vendors from serving meals/foods/beverages to students with the same list of food dyes on their campuses.

H-8069 by Wulf – Adds in House File 851, which passed the House Floor with a vote of 60-36 on March 19, 2025:

- Requires education standards to include instruction on nutrition to emphasize the importance of animal-based protein, dairy, vegetables, and fruit.

- Directs the Department of Education to apply for a waiver to the Federal Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to exempt sodium limits, whole grain requirements, and fruit and vegetable variety stipulations.
- If a waiver is granted the Department shall adopt updated guidelines for what constitutes a nutritionally adequate meal in consultation with IDALS to reflect local preferences, regional food sources, including corn, pork, and dairy that prioritizes animal-based protein, dairy products, vegetables and fresh fruit.
- July 1, 2027 school year applicability
- **Fiscal Note:** The DE will need an additional 3 FTEs for education program consultants estimated to cost \$455,000 annually to meet the administration and oversight requirements and an additional one time cost of \$146,000 for contract costs.
- **Revises the title**

H-8070 by Harris – Adds in House File 2451, which passed the Education Committee with a vote of 19-4 on February 18th:

- Limits K-5 digital instruction to 60 min per school day
- Districts must go through a one-to-one device checklist prior to renewing or starting a program
- Parents can opt out of digital instruction
- One addition from the bill that passed Education Committee is a prohibition on the use of digital devices during recess
- **Revises the title**

H-8082 by Croken – Requires the DE to administer a radon testing and mitigation grant program for school districts. Requires charter schools to participate in radon testing/reporting/mitigation. School radon testing results will be public records and provided to DHHS. DE emergency rules. Immediate effective date. **Revises the title.**

H-8089 by Baeth - Requires schools to ensure drinking water at the school is no higher than 3 milligrams per liter for nitrate-nitrogen concentration. Appropriates \$10 million. **Revises the title.**

H-8071 by Harris –

- Outlines legislative intent regarding daily movement providing physical and mental benefits.
- Requires grades 1-8 to have at least 30 minutes of PE each school day with the PE curriculum including an assessment of the physical fitness using the presidential physical fitness test. In addition, children in grades 6-8 shall be required to have a minimum of 20 minutes per day/150 minutes per week of physical activity.
- Requires grades 9-12 PE to include the presidential physical fitness test. These grades must also participate in at least one cocurricular or extracurricular activity prior to graduation.
- This amendment applies to charter schools as well
- **Revises the title**