
SENATE BILL 5866

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Pelz and Winsley; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Read first time 02/10/95. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to education technology in schools; amending RCW
2 28A.650.030 and 28A.650.015; adding new sections to chapter 28A.650
3 RCW; repealing 1994 c 245 s 3 and 1993 c 336 s 704 (uncodified); and
4 making an appropriation.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** In a society increasingly dependent on
7 information, a critical component of K-12 education is equitable and
8 universal access to technology, media, and information resources.
9 Technology and telecommunications are key to improving student learning
10 in ways that enable students to keep pace with societal changes,
11 changes in the workplace, and an increasingly competitive international
12 economy.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The K-12 learning technologies grant
14 program is created. The purposes of the grant program are to enable
15 Washington school districts to use technology and telecommunications to
16 ensure student attainment of the new state learning goals, to ensure
17 the future economic viability of students and youth, and to increase
18 the efficiency of the K-12 school systems.

1 (2) Funds under this grant program may be used for
2 technology-related investments as well as for planning, staff
3 development, and other purposes consistent with the stated purposes of
4 the grant program. For purposes of this section and as defined in WAC
5 392-140-545, "technology-related investments" means the purchase or
6 upgrade of electronic and optical equipment that helps students to
7 learn, including computers, CD ROM players, video disc players,
8 electronic microscopes, CAD hardware, and associated wiring, cabling,
9 servers, routers, modems, software, networks, and other peripherals.
10 Also included are expenditures incidental to the integration of
11 technology-related investments into the student learning process.

12 (a) Up to eighteen percent of the funds provided by the legislature
13 for the K-12 learning technologies grant program may be allocated to
14 school districts by the superintendent of public instruction for
15 planning, prototypes, and staff development directly related to
16 improving student learning through technology and telecommunications.

17 (b)(i) Up to eighty-two percent of the funds provided by the
18 legislature for the K-12 learning technologies grant program may be
19 allocated to school districts on a full-time equivalent student basis.
20 To be eligible for funds under this subsection, school districts shall
21 submit a grant application and school district technology plan that
22 meets the benchmarks in the Washington state technology plan for K-12
23 developed under RCW 28A.650.015.

24 (ii) The superintendent of public instruction shall, with the
25 assistance of a technology review panel, determine whether each
26 district technology plan application warrants funding based on the
27 required benchmarks. As needed for the purposes of this section, the
28 superintendent of public instruction shall appoint a technology review
29 panel consisting of but not limited to: District technology
30 coordinators, parents, library media specialists, community
31 representatives, school administrators, educational technology support
32 center directors, and curriculum specialists. The superintendent and
33 the educational technology support centers in the educational service
34 districts shall provide technical assistance to districts submitting
35 technology plans that are not approved with the intent of assisting the
36 district in improving the plan and resubmitting a successful
37 application with a technology plan that meets the benchmarks. This
38 approval process shall occur quarterly until December 1996.

1 (c) The amount of funds granted to school districts with approved
2 applications shall be determined by the superintendent of public
3 instruction based on a formula as follows: The available funds shall
4 be allocated on the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in
5 the district, the number of full-time equivalent students in all of the
6 approved districts, and the funds available for the grant program.
7 Districts shall match state-allocated funds in this program on a ratio
8 based on the relative per-student property valuation of school
9 districts in the state. Such matches may be in-kind contributions.
10 The minimum grant to an eligible school district shall be ten thousand
11 dollars.

12 (d) Funds within this program not granted to school districts by
13 January 1, 1997, under this section may be redirected by the
14 superintendent of public instruction for purposes consistent with the
15 purpose of this grant program.

16 (e) The superintendent of public instruction may use up to forty
17 thousand dollars of the funds appropriated for the K-12 learning
18 technologies grant program for assisting school districts in developing
19 technology plans, providing technical assistance to school districts,
20 and managing and evaluating the grant program. The superintendent may
21 delegate any of these responsibilities to educational service
22 districts.

23 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.650.030 and 1993 c 336 s 707 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 The superintendent of public instruction, to the extent funds are
26 appropriated, shall distribute funds to the Washington school
27 information processing cooperative, educational service districts,
28 other service providers, and to school districts on a grant basis,
29 from moneys appropriated for the purposes of this section, for
30 equipment, networking, planning, operations, and software to expand the
31 current K-12 education state-wide network and increase the quantity and
32 quality of student and educator access to on-line resources, experts,
33 and communication avenues.

34 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.650.015 and 1994 c 245 s 2 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, to the extent funds
37 are appropriated, shall ((develop and)) implement a Washington state K-

1 12 education technology plan. The technology plan(~~(, which shall be~~
2 ~~completed by September 1, 1994, and)~~) developed under section 704,
3 chapter 336, Laws of 1993, shall be updated on at least a biennial
4 basis(~~(, shall be developed)~~) to coordinate and expand the use of
5 education technology in the common schools of the state. The plan
6 shall be consistent with applicable provisions of chapter 43.105 RCW.
7 Each revision of the plan, at a minimum, shall address:

8 (a) The provision of technical assistance to schools and school
9 districts for the planning, implementation, and training of staff in
10 the use of technology in curricular and administrative functions;

11 (b) The continued development of a network to connect school
12 districts, institutions of higher learning, and other sources of on-
13 line information; and

14 (c) Methods to equitably increase the use of education technology
15 by students and school personnel throughout the state.

16 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall (~~(appoint)~~)
17 continue to facilitate an educational technology advisory committee to
18 assist in the (~~(development and)~~) implementation and biennial review
19 and revision of the technology plan in subsection (1) of this section.
20 The committee shall include, but is not limited to, persons
21 representing: The state board of education, the commission on student
22 learning, the department of information services, educational service
23 districts, school directors, school administrators, school principals,
24 teachers, classified staff, higher education faculty, parents,
25 students, business, labor, scientists and mathematicians, the higher
26 education coordinating board, the work force training and education
27 coordinating board, and the state library.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. 1994 c 245 s 3 & 1993 c 336 s 704
29 (uncodified) are each repealed.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. The superintendent of public instruction
31 shall adopt rules as necessary under chapter 34.05 RCW governing the
32 operation and scope of this chapter.

33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. Sections 1, 2, and 6 of this act are each
34 added to chapter 28A.650 RCW.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) The sum of twenty-six million three
2 hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is
3 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1997, from the general
4 fund to the superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of
5 this act.

6 (2) Of these funds:

7 (a) Twenty-four million two hundred forty thousand dollars is
8 appropriated for the K-12 learning technologies grant program
9 established in section 2 of this act; and

10 (b) Two million sixty thousand dollars is appropriated to expand
11 the current K-12 education state-wide network and its use by educators
12 and students as outlined in section 3 of this act.

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