

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 126

BY TYMESON

A Concurrent Resolution requesting the Legislative Council to create a learning technology commission to examine options for integrating technology into the classroom to prepare students for an economy that is increasingly dependent on technology and innovation.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that technology has a key role in revolutionizing the state's education system, and the integration of technology into the school curriculum can motivate and assist students to achieve at high levels and prepare them to become the knowledge workers of the 21st Century workforce by providing them with the skills necessary to compete in the global market; and

WHEREAS, many Iowa schools are implementing technology projects and updating technology in their classrooms, including projects involving distance learning, virtual learning, and laptop computers in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, technology offers this state a significant opportunity to improve the performance of its schools and to promote a wide range of high-quality

educational options utilizing technology for children enrolled in the schools of this state; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly requests that the Legislative Council create a learning technology commission, to be charged with developing a

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1 learning technology plan to achieve the goal of
2 preparing students for an economy that is increasingly
3 dependent on technology and innovation. The
4 commission shall examine the use of technology in
5 Iowa's and the nation's elementary and secondary
6 classrooms; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the plan developed by
8 the commission shall include, but not be limited to,
9 the following:

10 1. The costs and benefits of each component of the
11 plan.

12 2. The professional development needed to
13 integrate learning technology into classroom
14 technology.

15 3. Strategies for implementation of the plan,
16 including, at a minimum, phasing in the plan over a
17 term of years.

18 4. Strategies that coordinate the learning
19 technology in kindergarten through grade twelve with
20 the initiatives and resources of the department of
21 education, Iowa communications network, area education
22 agencies, higher education institutions providing
23 approved practitioner preparation programs, and other
24 accredited postsecondary institutions in the state.

25 5. Procedures for data tracking and assessment of
26 the progress in implementing the goals of the
27 initiative and the plan.

28 6. Strategies to establish a public-private
29 partnership between state government and a private
30 sector business having relevant knowledge and

1 experience; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the plan shall be
3 consistent with the following guiding principles:

4 1. EQUITY. The plan shall promote equal
5 opportunity for and provide meaningful access to
6 wireless and other learning technology resources for
7 all Iowa students regardless of geographic location or
8 economic means.

9 2. INTEGRATION WITH THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND
10 TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN CHAPTER 284.
11 The plan shall support student achievement through the
12 integration of learning technologies that are content-
13 focused and that add value to existing instructional
14 methods.

15 3. SUSTAINABILITY. The plan shall provide for the
16 future sustainability of learning technology resources
17 by adapting to future educational needs and
18 technological changes.

19 4. TEACHER PREPARATION AND PROFESSIONAL
20 DEVELOPMENT. The plan shall provide professional
21 development and training programs for administrators,
22 teachers and other educators in the use and
23 integration of learning technology tools in curriculum
24 development, instructional methods, and student
25 assessment systems.

26 5. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. The plan shall foster
27 economic development across all regions of the state
28 and the preparation of students for an economy that
29 embraces technology and innovation; and

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the commission shall

1 be appointed no later than July 1, 2004.

2 1. The commission membership shall consist of the
3 following:

4 a. Seven voting members from the general public
5 who shall be appointed by the Legislative Council.

6 b. One nonvoting, ex officio member who is a
7 member of the state board of education and is
8 appointed by the chairperson of the state board of
9 education.

10 c. One nonvoting, ex officio member who is the
11 state librarian or the state librarian's designee.

12 d. One nonvoting, ex officio member representing
13 public postsecondary education institutions who is
14 employed by a public postsecondary institution and is
15 appointed by the Legislative Council.

16 e. Three nonvoting, ex officio members
17 representing three different school districts and who
18 are appointed by the Legislative Council as follows:

19 (1) From a list of three names submitted by a
20 certified employee organization representing teachers
21 licensed under chapter 272, a teacher employed by a
22 school district.

23 (2) From a list of three names submitted by a
24 statewide organization representing administrators
25 licensed under chapter 272, an administrator employed
26 by a school district.

27 (3) From a list of three names submitted by a
28 statewide organization representing school boards, a
29 member of a board of directors of a school district.

30 f. One nonvoting, ex officio member representing

1 area education agencies who is appointed by the
2 Legislative Council from a list of three names
3 submitted by area education administrators.

4 g. One nonvoting, ex officio member who is a
5 member of the Senate and is appointed by the President
6 of the Senate.

7 h. One nonvoting, ex officio member who is a
8 member of the House of Representatives and is
9 appointed by the Speaker of the House of
10 Representatives.

11 2. Commission members shall be appointed in
12 compliance with sections 69.16 and 69.16A.
13 Appointments of public members shall be made to
14 provide broad representation of the various
15 geographical areas of the state insofar as possible.

16 3. In appointing members to the commission, proper
17 consideration shall be given to persons with
18 experience or special knowledge in one or more of the
19 following areas: education, business, economic
20 development, technology, and finance.

21 4. The commission shall elect a chairperson and a
22 vice-chairperson from among the voting members of the
23 commission; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the commission shall
25 submit its findings, recommendations, and its learning
26 technology plan in a report to the General Assembly by
27 December 15, 2004.

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