

**Senate File 516 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 516  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 237)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act directing the department of education to convene a working  
2 group to study the impact of technology on the cognitive  
3 function and academic performance of students.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — WORKING GROUP — IMPACT  
2 OF TECHNOLOGY ON COGNITIVE LEARNING.

3 1. The department of education, in collaboration with the  
4 department of health and human services, shall convene and  
5 provide administrative support to a working group that shall  
6 examine research related to the impact of school-provided  
7 technology on the cognitive function and academic performance  
8 of students. For purposes of this section, "school-provided  
9 technology" includes laptop computers, online learning management  
10 systems, and classroom slide show presentations.

11 2. The membership of the working group shall include but not  
12 be limited to educators, mental health professionals, and parents  
13 of school-age children.

14 3. Any expenses incurred by a member of the working group  
15 shall be the responsibility of the individual member or the  
16 respective entity represented by the member.

17 4. The working group shall submit its findings and  
18 recommendations in a report to the general assembly by December  
19 31, 2025. The report shall include recommendations on best  
20 practices related to the use of school-provided technology in  
21 educational contexts with a focus on ways to mitigate possible  
22 negative impacts on the social and behavioral development,  
23 attention span, mental concentration, and learning ability of  
24 students.

25 EXPLANATION

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

28 This bill directs the department of education, in  
29 collaboration with the department of health and human services,  
30 to convene a working group to examine research related to the  
31 impact of school-provided technology on the cognitive function  
32 and academic performance of students. The membership of the  
33 working group is required to include but not be limited to  
34 educators, mental health professionals, and parents of school-age  
35 children. The bill requires the working group to provide a

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1 report to the general assembly by December 31, 2025, detailing  
2 the working group's findings and recommendations. The report  
3 must include recommendations on best practices related to the use  
4 of school-provided technology in educational contexts.

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