

FEB 23 2005
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 409
BY BOAL

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to education technology, including the creation
2 of an Iowa learning technology commission and pilot program,
3 establishment of a research triangle and clearinghouse, and
4 allowing for the use of physical plant and equipment levy
5 revenues for education technology.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 409

1 Section 1. Section 262.9, Code 2005, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 31. Establish a research triangle,
4 defined by the three institutions of higher learning under the
5 board's control, and clearinghouse for purposes of sharing the
6 projects and results of kindergarten through grade twelve
7 education technology initiatives occurring in Iowa's school
8 districts, area education agencies, community colleges, and
9 other higher education institutions, with the education
10 community within and outside of the state. Dissemination of
11 and access to information regarding planning, financing,
12 curriculum, professional development, preservice training,
13 project implementation strategies, and results shall be
14 centralized to allow school districts from across the state to
15 gain ideas from each other regarding the integration of
16 technology in the classroom.

17 Sec. 2. Section 280A.1, Code 2005, is amended by adding
18 the following new unnumbered paragraph:

19 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. Public and private partners
20 shall participate in the development of the planning,
21 implementation, and outcomes for the initiative.

22 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 280A.2 IOWA LEARNING TECHNOLOGY
23 COMMISSION -- MEMBERS.

24 1. COMMISSION CREATED. An Iowa learning technology
25 commission is created to administer the Iowa learning
26 technology initiative, including creation of a pilot program
27 pursuant to section 280A.4, to be implemented through local
28 and public-private partnerships, that shall include but shall
29 not be limited to, use of one-to-one student learning
30 technology.

31 2. MEMBERS. The commission shall initially be appointed
32 no later than July 1, 2005, and shall consist of eighteen
33 members appointed as follows:

34 a. Nine voting members who shall be members of the general
35 public and shall be appointed as follows:

1 (1) Two members shall be appointed by the governor.

2 (2) Two members shall be appointed by the president of the
3 senate.

4 (3) One member shall be appointed by the minority leader
5 of the senate.

6 (4) Two members shall be appointed by the speaker of the
7 house of representatives.

8 (5) One member shall be appointed by the minority leader
9 of the house of representatives.

10 (6) One member who is a member of the state board of
11 education shall be appointed by the chairperson of the state
12 board.

13 b. Nine ex officio, nonvoting members who shall be
14 appointed as follows:

15 (1) One member representing public postsecondary education
16 institutions who is employed by a public postsecondary
17 education institution shall be appointed by the governor.

18 (2) Three members representing three different school
19 districts shall be appointed by the governor as follows:

20 (a) One member shall be a teacher employed by a school
21 district or area education agency who is appointed from a list
22 of three names submitted by a certified employee organization
23 representing teachers licensed under chapter 272.

24 (b) One member shall be an administrator employed by a
25 school district who is appointed from a list of three names
26 submitted by a statewide organization representing
27 administrators licensed under chapter 272.

28 (c) One member shall be a member of a board of directors
29 of a school district who is appointed by a statewide
30 organization representing school boards.

31 (3) One member representing area education agencies shall
32 be appointed by the governor from a list of three names
33 submitted by area education agency administrators.

34 (4) One member who is a member of the senate shall be
35 appointed by the president of the senate.

1 (5) One member who is a member of the senate shall be
2 appointed by the minority leader of the senate.

3 (6) One member who is a member of the house of
4 representatives shall be appointed by the speaker of the house
5 of representatives.

6 (7) One member who is a member of the house of
7 representatives shall be appointed by the minority leader of
8 the house of representatives.

9 3. EXPERIENCE AND SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE. In appointing
10 members to the commission, proper consideration shall be given
11 to persons with experience or special knowledge in one or more
12 of the following areas: education, including curriculum and
13 content; business; economic development; technology; and
14 finance.

15 4. BALANCE. Commission members shall be appointed in
16 compliance with sections 69.16 and 69.16A. Appointments of
17 public members shall be made to provide broad representation
18 of the various geographical areas of the state insofar as
19 possible.

20 5. CHAIRPERSONS. The commission shall elect a chairperson
21 and a vice chairperson annually from among the voting members
22 of the commission. A member shall not serve as a chairperson
23 or vice chairperson for more than three consecutive years.

24 6. MEETINGS. The commission shall meet at least three
25 times each year.

26 7. QUORUM. A majority of the voting members constitutes a
27 quorum for the transaction of any official business.

28 8. TERMS OF MEMBERS. The members shall be appointed to
29 three-year staggered terms and the terms shall commence and
30 end as provided by section 69.19. If a vacancy occurs, a
31 successor shall be appointed to serve the unexpired term. A
32 successor shall be appointed in the same manner and subject to
33 the same qualifications as the original appointment to serve
34 the unexpired term.

35 9. EXPENSES. Members of the commission are entitled to

1 receive reimbursement for actual expenses incurred while
2 engaged in the performance of official duties from funds
3 appropriated to the department of education for that purpose,
4 except that legislators' expenses shall be paid from funds
5 appropriated by section 2.12.

6 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 280A.3 COMMISSION DUTIES.

7 The commission shall:

8 1. Develop and administer the Iowa learning technology
9 pilot program in accordance with section 280A.4. The
10 commission shall determine application and selection
11 processes, and the minimum requirements for selection of pilot
12 program participants.

13 2. Develop an accurate assessment, prior to implementing
14 the pilot program as provided in section 280A.4 and with the
15 collaboration of the department of education, of the current
16 status of technology in Iowa's public school classrooms
17 supported by reliable data. Data collected and assessed shall
18 include the number of computers and their appropriate
19 corresponding use; the costs for hardware, software, staff
20 development, instructional staff, and technology support
21 staff; sources of funds used for school district technology
22 budgets; and an inventory of technology-based kindergarten
23 through grade twelve curricula.

24 3. Identify and coordinate, in collaboration with the
25 department of education, current public, private, federal,
26 state, community college, and local revenue sources used for
27 kindergarten through grade twelve educational technology at
28 the school district, area education agency, and state levels.
29 The commission shall utilize the information to determine a
30 budget with recommended appropriations for statewide
31 kindergarten through grade twelve education technology.

32 4. Submit the data assessed and the budget determined
33 pursuant to subsections 2 and 3 in a report to the house and
34 senate standing education committees and the joint
35 subcommittee on education appropriations of the general

1 assembly by January 15, 2006.

2 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 280A.4 PILOT PROGRAM.

3 1. The Iowa learning technology commission created in
4 section 280A.2 shall develop and administer the Iowa learning
5 technology pilot program to encourage innovation, increase
6 student achievement, and ensure that technology is used on the
7 basis of best practices. The pilot program should be designed
8 to obtain valid and reliable evidence of the impact on student
9 engagement and achievement from the use of technology, which
10 shall include but not be limited to a "one-to-one" initiative;
11 further demonstrate successful district-to-vendor
12 relationships and possibilities; identify local district
13 educational and fiscal planning and implementation strategies;
14 and gain a better understanding of the current status of
15 technology in Iowa schools. The goal of the pilot program is
16 to provide results and additional information necessary for
17 the general assembly to commit state funds toward
18 implementation of a statewide technology initiative. The
19 commission shall make the final determination regarding pilot
20 program grant awards, and shall notify the department of
21 education of the amount of the grant amount to be awarded to a
22 school district. From moneys appropriated to the department
23 of education for purposes of the pilot program, the pilot
24 program shall consist of state-funded competitive grants to
25 Iowa school districts that are matched locally with public or
26 private, federal, state, or local financing as determined by
27 the applicant school district. Administrative support and
28 staffing shall be provided by the department of education.

29 2. The pilot program shall be consistent with the
30 following guiding principles:

31 a. FOCUS ON INCREASING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES
32 THROUGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING. The focus on student
33 achievement should include identification, for purposes of the
34 pilot program as well as for statewide implementation, of the
35 age and developmentally appropriate use of educational

1 technology that will engage the learner and result in improved
2 student achievement opportunities.

3 b. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. Quality, ongoing
4 professional development shall be provided, including best
5 practices in the effective use of technology in the classroom.

6 c. CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT. Students' technology skills
7 shall be integrated into the curriculum and assessed through
8 the demonstration of learning within content areas.

9 d. EQUITABLE ACCESS. Grant awards under the pilot program
10 shall be distributed to school districts that meet the
11 selection requirements established by the commission in a
12 manner that ensures that students throughout the state have
13 equitable access to education opportunities offered via the
14 use of technology and telecommunications.

15 e. EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PLANNING. Due consideration
16 shall be given to future sustainability of learning technology
17 resources by adapting to future educational needs and
18 technology changes and by avoiding obsolescence of learning
19 technology resources.

20 f. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. Grant moneys should be
21 distributed in such a manner as to foster economic development
22 across all regions of the state and to prepare students for an
23 economy that embraces technology and innovation.

24 g. ACCOUNTABILITY. The pilot program shall include
25 methods of measuring progress in the areas of increased
26 student engagement; decreased disciplinary problems; increased
27 use of computers for writing, analysis, and research; movement
28 toward student-centered classrooms; increased parental
29 involvement; and increased standardized test scores.

30 Sec. 6. Section 298.3, Code 2005, is amended by adding the
31 following new subsection:

32 NEW SUBSECTION. 13. The purchase, notwithstanding the
33 limitation provided in subsection 3, of computer hardware,
34 servers, and preloaded software.

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EXPLANATION

1 This bill establishes an Iowa learning technology
2 commission to administer the Iowa learning technology
3 initiative, to be implemented through local and public-
4 private partnerships, develop and administer an Iowa learning
5 technology pilot program, collect and assess data relating to
6 the current status of technology in Iowa's public school
7 classrooms, and identify and coordinate current revenue
8 sources used for K-12 educational technology; requires the
9 state board of regents to establish a research triangle
10 composed of the three regents universities and clearinghouse
11 for purposes of sharing K-12 education technology initiatives;
12 and expands the purposes for which physical plant and
13 equipment levies may be used to include computer hardware,
14 servers, and preloaded software.

15 The initiative administered by the commission may include,
16 but is not limited to, establishment of a leadership group,
17 use of one-to-one student learning technology and the creation
18 of an Iowa learning technology pilot program to encourage
19 innovation, increase student achievement, ensure that
20 technology is used on the basis of best practices, further
21 demonstrate successful district-to-vendor relationships and
22 possibilities, and identify local district educational and
23 fiscal planning and implementation strategies. The pilot
24 program is to be designed to obtain valid and reliable
25 evidence of the impact on student achievement from the use of
26 technology. The goal of the pilot program is to provide
27 results and additional information necessary for the general
28 assembly to commit state funds toward implementation of a
29 statewide technology initiative. The bill lists the key
30 components of the pilot program.

31 From moneys appropriated to the department of education for
32 purposes of the pilot program, state-funded competitive grants
33 are to be made by the commission to Iowa school districts that
34 match the state funds locally with public or private, federal,
35 other state, or local financing as determined by the applicant

1 school district.

2 The commission is directed to use the information it
3 collects regarding current revenue sources to determine a
4 budget with recommended appropriations for statewide
5 kindergarten through grade 12 education technology. The data
6 and the budget and appropriations recommendations must be
7 submitted in a report to the house and senate standing
8 education committees and the joint subcommittee on education
9 appropriations of the general assembly by January 15, 2006.

10 The commission consists of nine voting members who are
11 members of the general public and nine ex officio, nonvoting
12 members who are education professionals or education
13 stakeholders.

14 The research triangle and clearinghouse to be established
15 by the state board of regents is directed to share the
16 projects and results of K-12 education technology initiatives
17 occurring in Iowa's school districts, area education agencies,
18 community colleges, and other higher education institutions,
19 with the education community within and outside of the state.

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