
SENATE BILL 5906

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators Rasmussen, Finkbeiner, McAuliffe, Eide, Regala, Kastama, Hewitt, Hochstatter and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 02/07/2001. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to technology planning for public schools; creating
2 new sections; providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that when the basic
5 education act was enacted in 1977, digital technology as an
6 instructional tool was not available. The legislature further finds
7 that computers and access to vast amounts of information over the
8 internet are becoming increasingly important tools for teaching and
9 learning in classrooms throughout the state of Washington. The
10 legislature further finds that there are large discrepancies in access
11 to technology in different school districts in the state and even in
12 various schools within the same school district. The legislature
13 intends to study the application of technology in schools and school
14 districts across the state, what technology is currently available in
15 the schools, how the technology is funded, the differences in use and
16 access among districts, and the future requirements for technology in
17 the schools.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The technology in education task force is
2 created. The technology in education task force shall develop
3 recommendations about the use of technology and recommendations about
4 funding technology in the schools after conducting a study. The study
5 shall focus on the application of technology in grades three through
6 twelve. The study shall be completed not later than November 1, 2001,
7 and the recommendations shall be submitted to the education and fiscal
8 committees of the house of representatives and the senate. The study
9 shall include but not be limited to:

10 (1) The technology currently available in schools and school
11 districts. Technology includes but is not limited to computers, local
12 area networks, and access to electronic media on the internet;

13 (2) Methods school districts are using currently to fund technology
14 and recommendations for the future;

15 (3) Plans to update the technology including any replacement
16 schedules;

17 (4) Training in the use of technology;

18 (5) The different uses of technology in upper elementary grades,
19 middle school, and high school; and

20 (6) Applications of technology in schools in other states and how
21 that technology is funded.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The technology in education task force shall
23 consist of the following voting members or their designees: The
24 governor; one member from each major caucus of the senate, appointed by
25 the president of the senate; one member from each major caucus of the
26 house of representatives, appointed by the co-speakers of the house of
27 representatives; the superintendent of public instruction; the chair of
28 the information services board; one educational service district
29 superintendent, one school district superintendent, one principal, and
30 one teacher, each appointed by the superintendent of public
31 instruction; and one representative of the computer or digital
32 technology industry appointed by the superintendent of public
33 instruction. The superintendent of public instruction or the
34 superintendent's designee shall chair the task force.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires December 1, 2001.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
2 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
3 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
4 immediately.

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