AN ACT Relating to safe technology use and digital citizenship in public schools; adding a new section to chapter 28A.650 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature recognizes that as technology becomes more prevalent, students must learn how to thoughtfully, ethically, and responsibly use technology. The legislature intends to provide a process in which students, parents or guardians, teachers and other school employees, administrators, volunteers, and community representatives will engage in an ongoing discussion on safe technology use and digital citizenship.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 28A.650 RCW to read as follows: (1) As used in this section, "digital citizenship" means the norms of appropriate, responsible, and healthy behavior related to current technology use, including digital and media literacy, ethics, etiquette, and security. Digital citizenship includes the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and interpret media. (2)(a) By August 1, 2016, the Washington state school directors' association shall revise and distribute its model policy and...
procedure on electronic resources and internet safety to all school
districts in the state.

(b) In revising its model policy and procedure, the Washington
state school directors' association, with the assistance of the
office of the superintendent of public instruction, shall convene and
consult with an advisory committee. The advisory committee must
include experts in digital citizenship and media literacy along with
other stakeholders, including parent associations, educators, and
administrators.

(c) The model policy and procedure must address safe technology
use and digital citizenship that empowers:

(i) A student to make smart media and online choices; and

(ii) A parent or guardian to know how to discuss safe technology
use with the parent's or guardian's child.

(3) Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, each school district
shall annually review and amend if necessary a policy and procedure
that at a minimum incorporates the revised model policy and procedure
provided under subsection (2) of this section. The policy and
procedure must be reviewed or amended through a process that includes
representation of students, parents or guardians, teachers and other
school employees, administrators, volunteers, and community
representatives.

(4) Each school district shall provide education that includes
awareness of safe technology use, digital citizenship, and digital
and media literacy.

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