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SENATE BILL 6273

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senators Liiias, Litzow, Rolfes, Fain, Mullet, Carlyle, Billig, Fraser, and McAuliffe

Read first time 01/13/16. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

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

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

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

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.650  
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) As used in this section, "digital citizenship" means the  
15 norms of appropriate, responsible, and healthy behavior related to  
16 current technology use, including digital and media literacy, ethics,  
17 etiquette, and security. Digital citizenship includes the ability to  
18 access, analyze, evaluate, and interpret media.

19 (2)(a) By August 1, 2016, the Washington state school directors'  
20 association shall revise and distribute its model policy and

1 procedure on electronic resources and internet safety to all school  
2 districts in the state.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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