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SENATE BILL 5866

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Pelz and Winsley; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Read first time 02/10/95. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to education technology in schools; amending RCW  
2 28A.650.030 and 28A.650.015; adding new sections to chapter 28A.650  
3 RCW; repealing 1994 c 245 s 3 and 1993 c 336 s 704 (uncodified); and  
4 making an appropriation.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** In a society increasingly dependent on  
7 information, a critical component of K-12 education is equitable and  
8 universal access to technology, media, and information resources.  
9 Technology and telecommunications are key to improving student learning  
10 in ways that enable students to keep pace with societal changes,  
11 changes in the workplace, and an increasingly competitive international  
12 economy.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The K-12 learning technologies grant  
14 program is created. The purposes of the grant program are to enable  
15 Washington school districts to use technology and telecommunications to  
16 ensure student attainment of the new state learning goals, to ensure  
17 the future economic viability of students and youth, and to increase  
18 the efficiency of the K-12 school systems.

1 (2) Funds under this grant program may be used for  
2 technology-related investments as well as for planning, staff  
3 development, and other purposes consistent with the stated purposes of  
4 the grant program. For purposes of this section and as defined in WAC  
5 392-140-545, "technology-related investments" means the purchase or  
6 upgrade of electronic and optical equipment that helps students to  
7 learn, including computers, CD ROM players, video disc players,  
8 electronic microscopes, CAD hardware, and associated wiring, cabling,  
9 servers, routers, modems, software, networks, and other peripherals.  
10 Also included are expenditures incidental to the integration of  
11 technology-related investments into the student learning process.

12 (a) Up to eighteen percent of the funds provided by the legislature  
13 for the K-12 learning technologies grant program may be allocated to  
14 school districts by the superintendent of public instruction for  
15 planning, prototypes, and staff development directly related to  
16 improving student learning through technology and telecommunications.

17 (b)(i) Up to eighty-two percent of the funds provided by the  
18 legislature for the K-12 learning technologies grant program may be  
19 allocated to school districts on a full-time equivalent student basis.  
20 To be eligible for funds under this subsection, school districts shall  
21 submit a grant application and school district technology plan that  
22 meets the benchmarks in the Washington state technology plan for K-12  
23 developed under RCW 28A.650.015.

24 (ii) The superintendent of public instruction shall, with the  
25 assistance of a technology review panel, determine whether each  
26 district technology plan application warrants funding based on the  
27 required benchmarks. As needed for the purposes of this section, the  
28 superintendent of public instruction shall appoint a technology review  
29 panel consisting of but not limited to: District technology  
30 coordinators, parents, library media specialists, community  
31 representatives, school administrators, educational technology support  
32 center directors, and curriculum specialists. The superintendent and  
33 the educational technology support centers in the educational service  
34 districts shall provide technical assistance to districts submitting  
35 technology plans that are not approved with the intent of assisting the  
36 district in improving the plan and resubmitting a successful  
37 application with a technology plan that meets the benchmarks. This  
38 approval process shall occur quarterly until December 1996.

1 (c) The amount of funds granted to school districts with approved  
2 applications shall be determined by the superintendent of public  
3 instruction based on a formula as follows: The available funds shall  
4 be allocated on the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in  
5 the district, the number of full-time equivalent students in all of the  
6 approved districts, and the funds available for the grant program.  
7 Districts shall match state-allocated funds in this program on a ratio  
8 based on the relative per-student property valuation of school  
9 districts in the state. Such matches may be in-kind contributions.  
10 The minimum grant to an eligible school district shall be ten thousand  
11 dollars.

12 (d) Funds within this program not granted to school districts by  
13 January 1, 1997, under this section may be redirected by the  
14 superintendent of public instruction for purposes consistent with the  
15 purpose of this grant program.

16 (e) The superintendent of public instruction may use up to forty  
17 thousand dollars of the funds appropriated for the K-12 learning  
18 technologies grant program for assisting school districts in developing  
19 technology plans, providing technical assistance to school districts,  
20 and managing and evaluating the grant program. The superintendent may  
21 delegate any of these responsibilities to educational service  
22 districts.

23 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.650.030 and 1993 c 336 s 707 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 The superintendent of public instruction, to the extent funds are  
26 appropriated, shall distribute funds to the Washington school  
27 information processing cooperative, educational service districts,  
28 other service providers, and to school districts on a grant basis,  
29 from moneys appropriated for the purposes of this section, for  
30 equipment, networking, planning, operations, and software to expand the  
31 current K-12 education state-wide network and increase the quantity and  
32 quality of student and educator access to on-line resources, experts,  
33 and communication avenues.

34 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.650.015 and 1994 c 245 s 2 are each amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, to the extent funds  
37 are appropriated, shall ((develop and)) implement a Washington state K-

1 12 education technology plan. The technology plan(~~(, which shall be~~  
2 ~~completed by September 1, 1994, and)~~) developed under section 704,  
3 chapter 336, Laws of 1993, shall be updated on at least a biennial  
4 basis(~~(, shall be developed)~~) to coordinate and expand the use of  
5 education technology in the common schools of the state. The plan  
6 shall be consistent with applicable provisions of chapter 43.105 RCW.  
7 Each revision of the plan, at a minimum, shall address:

8 (a) The provision of technical assistance to schools and school  
9 districts for the planning, implementation, and training of staff in  
10 the use of technology in curricular and administrative functions;

11 (b) The continued development of a network to connect school  
12 districts, institutions of higher learning, and other sources of on-  
13 line information; and

14 (c) Methods to equitably increase the use of education technology  
15 by students and school personnel throughout the state.

16 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall (~~(appoint)~~)  
17 continue to facilitate an educational technology advisory committee to  
18 assist in the (~~(development and)~~) implementation and biennial review  
19 and revision of the technology plan in subsection (1) of this section.  
20 The committee shall include, but is not limited to, persons  
21 representing: The state board of education, the commission on student  
22 learning, the department of information services, educational service  
23 districts, school directors, school administrators, school principals,  
24 teachers, classified staff, higher education faculty, parents,  
25 students, business, labor, scientists and mathematicians, the higher  
26 education coordinating board, the work force training and education  
27 coordinating board, and the state library.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. 1994 c 245 s 3 & 1993 c 336 s 704  
29 (uncodified) are each repealed.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. The superintendent of public instruction  
31 shall adopt rules as necessary under chapter 34.05 RCW governing the  
32 operation and scope of this chapter.

33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. Sections 1, 2, and 6 of this act are each  
34 added to chapter 28A.650 RCW.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 8.**    (1) The sum of twenty-six million three  
2 hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is  
3 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1997, from the general  
4 fund to the superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of  
5 this act.

6        (2) Of these funds:

7        (a) Twenty-four million two hundred forty thousand dollars is  
8 appropriated for the K-12 learning technologies grant program  
9 established in section 2 of this act; and

10       (b) Two million sixty thousand dollars is appropriated to expand  
11 the current K-12 education state-wide network and its use by educators  
12 and students as outlined in section 3 of this act.

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