

E2SHB 1365 - S AMD 799

By Senator Wellman

ADOPTED 04/10/2021

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature recognizes that the
4 COVID-19 pandemic exposed the importance of internet-accessible
5 learning devices for the ability of students to receive a modern
6 education. When Washington schools closed in March 2020, schools and
7 school districts shifted quickly to offering education in an online
8 environment. Teachers adapted their lessons for videoconferencing
9 platforms and arranged for students to submit homework via email.
10 However, limited opportunities for in-person instruction amplified
11 digital deserts and disparities among students that are likely to
12 continue to grow for the foreseeable future.

13 (2) The legislature finds that students from low-income families
14 face disproportionate barriers to accessing learning over the
15 internet in their homes, partly because they do not have internet-
16 accessible devices appropriate for learning. The legislature also
17 recognizes that accessing learning over the internet requires more
18 than just an internet-accessible device appropriate for learning. For
19 students and their families to be truly connected, they need the
20 digital literacy, digital skills, and digital support to use
21 internet-accessible devices and to navigate the web in support of
22 student learning.

23 (3) Therefore, the purposes of this act are to: (a) Accelerate
24 student access to learning devices and related goods and services;
25 (b) expand training programs and technical assistance on using
26 technology to support student learning; and (c) build the capacity of
27 schools and districts to support digital navigation services for
28 students and their families.

29 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.650.010 and 2017 c 90 s 1 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

1 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
2 this section apply throughout this chapter.

3 (1) "Digital citizenship" includes the norms of appropriate,
4 responsible, and healthy behavior related to current technology use,
5 including digital and media literacy, ethics, etiquette, and
6 security. The term also includes the ability to access, analyze,
7 evaluate, develop, produce, and interpret media, as well as internet
8 safety and cyberbullying prevention and response.

9 ~~(2) ("Education technology" or "technology" means the effective
10 use of electronic and optical tools, including telephones, and
11 electronic and optical pathways in helping students learn.~~

12 ~~(3) "Network" means integrated linking of education technology
13 systems in schools for transmission of voice, data, video, or
14 imaging, or a combination of these.)~~ "Learning device" means an
15 internet-accessible computer, tablet, or other device, with an
16 appropriate operating system, software applications, and data
17 security, that can be used to access curricula, educational web
18 applications and websites, and learning management systems, and with
19 telecommunications capabilities sufficient for videoconferencing.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 28A.650
21 RCW to read as follows:

22 (1) Each educational service district shall provide technology
23 consultation, procurement, and training, in consultation with
24 teacher-librarians through school library information and technology
25 programs as defined in RCW 28A.320.240, and as described in this
26 section. An educational service district may meet the requirements of
27 this section in cooperation with one or more other educational
28 service districts.

29 (2) Technology consultation involves providing technical
30 assistance and guidance to local school districts related to
31 technology needs and financing, and may include consultation with
32 other entities.

33 (3)(a) Technology procurement involves negotiating for local
34 school district purchasing and leasing of learning devices and
35 peripheral devices, learning management systems, cybersecurity
36 protection, device insurance, and other technology-related goods and
37 services.

38 (b) When selecting goods and services for procurement, the
39 educational service district must consider a variety of student

1 needs, as well as accessibility, age appropriateness, privacy and
2 security, data storage and transfer capacity, and telecommunications
3 capability.

4 (c) Technology procurement may be performed in consultation and
5 contract with the department of enterprise services under chapter
6 39.26 RCW.

7 (4) Technology training involves developing and offering direct
8 services to local school districts related to staff development and
9 capacity building to provide digital navigation services to students
10 and their families. The educational service districts must seek to
11 consult teacher-librarians and other relevant information technology
12 programs to determine where there is a need and focus for this
13 training. These services may be provided on a fee-for-service basis.

14 (5) Technology consultation, procurement, and training under this
15 section must be provided to local public schools, as defined in RCW
16 28A.150.010, the Washington center for deaf and hard of hearing
17 youth, and the school for the blind, in addition to local school
18 districts. Technology training under this section may also be offered
19 to child care providers.

20 (6) The educational service districts must cooperate with the
21 office of the superintendent of public instruction to provide the
22 data required under section 5(1) of this act.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.650
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
26 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public
27 instruction shall develop and administer a technology grant program
28 to support the work required by section 3 of this act, as described
29 in this section, to advance the following objectives:

30 (a) Expand technical support and training of school and district
31 staff in using technology to support student learning; and

32 (b) Develop district-based and school-based capacity to assist
33 students and their families in accessing and using technology to
34 support student learning.

35 (2) The following entities, individually or in cooperation, may
36 apply to the office of the superintendent of public instruction for a
37 grant under this section: An educational service district; the
38 Washington center for deaf and hard of hearing youth; and the state
39 school for the blind.

1 (3) At a minimum, grant applications must include:

2 (a) The applicant's technology plan for accomplishing the goals
3 of the grant program, the applicant's student demographics, including
4 the percent of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals,
5 and any specialized technology needs of the applicant's students,
6 such as students with disabilities and English learners who may need
7 adaptive or assistive technologies; and

8 (b) A description of preexisting programs and funding sources
9 used by the applicant to provide learning devices to students, staff,
10 or both.

11 (4) When ranking and selecting applicants, the office of the
12 superintendent of public instruction must prioritize both of the
13 following:

14 (a) Applicants serving school districts without preexisting
15 programs to provide a device for every student and that have 30
16 percent or more students eligible for free and reduced-price meals;
17 and

18 (b) Applicants with students who have specialized technology
19 needs.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.650
21 RCW to read as follows:

22 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
23 collect and analyze the following data:

24 (a) Demographic, distribution, and other data related to
25 technology initiatives; and

26 (b) Biennial survey data on school and school district progress
27 to accomplish the objectives listed in section 4(1) of this act.

28 (2) By November 1, 2022, and by November 1st every even year
29 thereafter, the office of the superintendent of public instruction
30 shall provide a report to the appropriate policy and fiscal
31 committees of the legislature, in accordance with RCW 43.01.036,
32 with:

33 (a) A summary of the technology initiatives data collected under
34 subsection (1) of this section;

35 (b) The status of the state's progress in accomplishing the
36 following: (i) Accelerate student access to learning devices and
37 related goods and services; (ii) expand training programs and
38 technical assistance on using technology to support student learning;

1 and (iii) build the capacity of schools and districts to support
2 digital navigation services for students and their families;

3 (c) Recommendations for improving the administration and
4 oversight of the technology initiatives; and

5 (d) An update on innovative and collaborative activities
6 occurring in communities across the state to support widespread
7 public technology literacy and fluency, as well as student universal
8 access to learning devices.

9 (3) By November 1, 2022, the office of the superintendent of
10 public instruction shall survey districts, collect data, and provide
11 a report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the
12 legislature that contains, at a minimum, the following:

13 (a) A list of districts that have a separate technology levy;

14 (b) The total amount of funding generated by the technology
15 levies; and

16 (c) A detailed breakdown on how the funds generated by the
17 technology levies are being used, including, but not limited to, the
18 number of technology devices being purchased with those funds,
19 personnel costs related to servicing and maintaining those devices
20 covered by those funds, and any training or professional development
21 for use of technology provided with those funds.

22 (4) For the purposes of this section, "technology initiatives"
23 means the technology grants awarded by the office of the
24 superintendent of public instruction under section 4 of this act, and
25 the provision of technology consultation, procurement, and training
26 by educational service districts under section 3 of this act.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 (1)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction
30 shall establish a grant program for the purposes of supporting media
31 literacy and digital citizenship through school district leadership
32 teams. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
33 establish and publish criteria for the grant program, and may accept
34 gifts, grants, or endowments from public or private sources for the
35 grant program.

36 (b) A school district that receives a grant under this section is
37 not prohibited from receiving a grant in subsequent grant cycles.

38 (2)(a) For a school district to qualify for a grant under this
39 section, the grant proposal must provide that the grantee create a

1 district leadership team that develops a curriculum unit on media
2 literacy or digital citizenship, or both, that may be integrated into
3 one of the following areas:

- 4 (i) Social studies;
- 5 (ii) English language arts; or
- 6 (iii) Health.

7 (b) School districts selected under the grant program are
8 expected to evaluate the curriculum unit they develop under this
9 subsection (2).

10 (c) In developing their curriculum unit, school districts
11 selected under the grant program are encouraged to work with school
12 district teacher-librarians or a school district library information
13 technology program, if applicable.

14 (3) The establishment of the grant program under this section is
15 subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific
16 purpose.

17 (4) The curriculum unit developed under this section must be made
18 available as an open educational resource.

19 (5) (a) Up to 10 grants a year awarded under this section must be
20 for establishing media literacy professional learning communities
21 with the purpose of sharing best practices in the subject of media
22 literacy.

23 (b) (i) Grant recipients under this subsection (5) are required to
24 develop an online presence for their community to model new
25 strategies and to share ideas, challenges, and successful practices.

26 (ii) Grant recipients shall attend the group meetings created by
27 the office of the superintendent of public instruction under (c) of
28 this subsection (5).

29 (c) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
30 convene group meetings for the purpose of sharing best practices and
31 strategies in media literacy education.

32 (d) Additional activities permitted for the use of these grants
33 include, but are not limited to:

34 (i) Organizing teachers from across a school district to develop
35 new instructional strategies and to share successful strategies;

36 (ii) Sharing successful practices across a group of school
37 districts; and

38 (iii) Facilitating coordination between educational service
39 districts and school districts to provide training.

1 (6) (a) At least one grant awarded in each award cycle must be for
2 developing and using a curriculum that contains a focus on synthetic
3 media as a major component.

4 (b) For the purposes of this section, "synthetic media" means an
5 image, an audio recording, or a video recording of an individual's
6 appearance, speech, or conduct that has been intentionally
7 manipulated with the use of digital technology in a manner to create
8 a realistic but false image, audio, or video.

9 (7) This section expires July 31, 2031.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
13 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public
14 instruction shall convene two regional conferences on the subject of
15 media literacy and digital citizenship.

16 (2) The conferences in this section should highlight the work
17 performed by the recipients of the grant program established under
18 section 6 of this act, as well as best practices in media literacy
19 and digital citizenship.

20 (3) The locations for conferences convened under this section
21 must include one site in western Washington and one site in eastern
22 Washington.

23 (4) This section expires July 31, 2031.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The following acts or parts of acts are
25 each repealed:

26 (1) RCW 28A.650.005 (Findings—Intent) and 1993 c 336 s 701;

27 (2) RCW 28A.650.015 (Education technology plan—Educational
28 technology advisory committee) and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 725, 2011
29 1st sp.s. c 11 s 133, 2009 c 556 s 17, 2006 c 263 s 917, 1995 c 335 s
30 507, 1994 c 245 s 2, & 1993 c 336 s 703;

31 (3) RCW 28A.650.020 (Regional educational technology support
32 centers—Advisory councils) and 1993 c 336 s 705;

33 (4) RCW 28A.650.025 (Distribution of funds for regional
34 educational technology support centers) and 1993 c 336 s 706;

35 (5) RCW 28A.650.030 (Distribution of funds to expand the
36 education statewide network) and 1993 c 336 s 707;

1 (6) RCW 28A.650.900 (Findings—Intent—Part headings not law—1993
2 c 336); and
3 (7) RCW 28A.650.901 (Findings—1993 c 336).

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** If specific funding for the purposes of
5 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
6 provided by June 30, 2021, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
7 act is null and void."

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8 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "staff;" strike the
9 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.650.010; adding
10 new sections to chapter 28A.650 RCW; adding new sections to chapter
11 28A.300 RCW; creating new sections; repealing RCW 28A.650.005,
12 28A.650.015, 28A.650.020, 28A.650.025, 28A.650.030, 28A.650.900, and
13 28A.650.901; and providing expiration dates."

EFFECT: Requires OSPI to establish a grant program for supporting media literacy and digital citizenship. Requires OSPI to convene two regional conferences on the subject of media literacy and digital citizenship. Revises the entities eligible for the technology grant program. Requires OSPI to survey school districts and report to the Legislature on use of technology levy funds.

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