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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1365**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Gregerson, Stonier, Ramos, Callan, Simmons, J. Johnson, Taylor, Lovick, Leavitt, Ortiz-Self, Berg, Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Morgan, Wicks, Tharinger, Duerr, Ormsby, Hansen, Berry, Dolan, Valdez, Cody, Bronoske, Senn, Bateman, Bergquist, Kloba, Riccelli, Davis, Macri, Ramel, Harris-Talley, Pollet, and Sells)

READ FIRST TIME 02/15/21.

1 AN ACT Relating to procuring and supporting appropriate computers  
2 and devices for public school students and instructional staff;  
3 amending RCW 28A.650.010; adding new sections to chapter 28A.650 RCW;  
4 creating a new section; and repealing RCW 28A.650.005, 28A.650.015,  
5 28A.650.020, 28A.650.025, 28A.650.030, 28A.650.900, and 28A.650.901.

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

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

17 (2) The legislature finds that students from low-income families  
18 face disproportionate barriers to accessing learning over the  
19 internet in their homes, partly because they do not have internet-  
20 accessible devices appropriate for learning. The legislature also  
21 recognizes that accessing learning over the internet requires more

1 than just an internet-accessible device appropriate for learning. For  
2 students and their families to be truly connected, they need the  
3 digital literacy, digital skills, and digital support to use  
4 internet-accessible devices and to navigate the web in support of  
5 student learning.

6 (3) Therefore, it is the goal of the legislature to: Accelerate  
7 universal 1:1, which means one learning device for each student, by  
8 increasing student access to, and training for, learning devices and  
9 other technology-related services and products; expand the provision  
10 of training and technical assistance to instructional staff using  
11 technology to support student learning; and build the capacity of  
12 schools to provide digital navigation services to students and their  
13 families.

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

16 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
17 this section apply throughout this chapter.

18 (1) "Digital citizenship" includes the norms of appropriate,  
19 responsible, and healthy behavior related to current technology use,  
20 including digital and media literacy, ethics, etiquette, and  
21 security. The term also includes the ability to access, analyze,  
22 evaluate, develop, produce, and interpret media, as well as internet  
23 safety and cyberbullying prevention and response.

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

27 ~~(3) "Network" means integrated linking of education technology  
28 systems in schools for transmission of voice, data, video, or  
29 imaging, or a combination of these.))~~ "Learning device" means an  
30 internet-accessible computer, tablet, or other device, with an  
31 appropriate operating system, software applications, and data  
32 security, that can be used to access curricula, educational web  
33 applications and websites, and learning management systems, and with  
34 telecommunications capabilities sufficient for videoconferencing.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.650  
36 RCW to read as follows:

37 (1) Each educational service district shall provide technology  
38 consultation, procurement, and training as described in this section.

1 An educational service district may meet the requirements of this  
2 section in cooperation with one or more other educational service  
3 districts.

4 (2) Technology consultation involves providing technical  
5 assistance and guidance to local school districts related to  
6 technology needs and financing, and may include consultation with  
7 other entities.

8 (3)(a) Technology procurement involves negotiating for local  
9 school district purchases and leasing of learning devices and  
10 peripheral devices, learning management systems, cybersecurity  
11 protection, device insurance, and other technology-related services  
12 and products.

13 (b) When selecting services and products for procurement, the  
14 educational service district must consider a variety of student  
15 needs, as well as accessibility, age appropriateness, privacy and  
16 security, data storage and transfer capacity, and telecommunications  
17 capability.

18 (c) Technology procurement may be performed in consultation and  
19 contract with the department of enterprise services under chapter  
20 39.26 RCW.

21 (4) Technology training involves developing and offering direct  
22 services to local school districts related to staff development and  
23 capacity building to provide digital navigation services to students  
24 and their families. These services may be provided on a fee-for-  
25 service basis.

26 (5) Technology consultation, procurement, and training under this  
27 section must be provided to local public schools, as defined in RCW  
28 28A.150.010, the Washington center for deaf and hard of hearing  
29 youth, and the school for the blind, in addition to local school  
30 districts.

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

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

36 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
37 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public  
38 instruction shall develop and administer a technology grant program,  
39 as described in this section, to accomplish the following goals:

1 (a) Universal 1:1, which means one learning device for each  
2 student;

3 (b) Technology training for school and district staff; and

4 (c) Capacity building to provide digital navigation services that  
5 train students and their families to use technology in support of  
6 student learning.

7 (2) The following entities, individually or in cooperation, may  
8 apply to the office of the superintendent of public instruction for a  
9 grant under this section: A public school as defined in RCW  
10 28A.150.010; a school district; an educational service district; the  
11 Washington center for deaf and hard of hearing youth; and the state  
12 school for the blind.

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

14 (a) The applicant's technology plan for accomplishing the goals  
15 of the grant program, the applicant's student demographics, including  
16 the percent of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals,  
17 and any specialized technology needs of the applicant's students,  
18 such as students with disabilities and English learners who may need  
19 adaptive or assistive technologies; and

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

23 (4) When ranking and selecting applicants, the office of the  
24 superintendent of public instruction must prioritize both of the  
25 following:

26 (a) Applicants without preexisting programs to provide a device  
27 for every student and that have 30 percent or more students eligible  
28 for free and reduced-price meals; and

29 (b) Applicants with students who have specialized technology  
30 needs.

31 (5) When selecting applicants, the office of the superintendent  
32 of public instruction must, to the extent possible, select applicants  
33 representing geographic diversity.

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

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

38 (a) Demographic, distribution, and other data-related technology  
39 initiatives; and

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

3 (2) By November 1, 2022, and by November 1st every even year  
4 thereafter, the office of the superintendent of public instruction  
5 shall provide a report to the appropriate policy and fiscal  
6 committees of the legislature, in accordance with RCW 43.01.036,  
7 with:

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

10 (b) The status of the state's progress in accomplishing the goal  
11 described in section 1(3) of this act;

12 (c) Recommendations for improving the administration and  
13 oversight of the technology initiatives; and

14 (d) An update on the activities of the office of the  
15 superintendent of public instruction, educational service districts,  
16 school districts, the Washington center for deaf and hard of hearing  
17 youth, and the state school for the blind, performed in collaboration  
18 with other state, local, or community-based initiatives related to  
19 learning devices and other technology-related services and products,  
20 training and technical assistance for school and district staff, and  
21 building the capacity of schools and districts to provide digital  
22 navigation services to students and their families.

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

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The following acts or parts of acts are  
29 each repealed:

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

31 (2) RCW 28A.650.015 (Education technology plan—Educational  
32 technology advisory committee) and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 725, 2011  
33 1st sp.s. c 11 s 133, 2009 c 556 s 17, 2006 c 263 s 917, 1995 c 335 s  
34 507, 1994 c 245 s 2, & 1993 c 336 s 703;

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

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

- 1           (5) RCW 28A.650.030 (Distribution of funds to expand the  
2 education statewide network) and 1993 c 336 s 707;  
3           (6) RCW 28A.650.900 (Findings—Intent—Part headings not law—1993  
4 c 336); and  
5           (7) RCW 28A.650.901 (Findings—1993 c 336).

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