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SENATE FILE 177 EDUCATION  
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(COMPANION TO LSB 1874HH  
BY BOAL)

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to education technology, including the creation  
2 of an Iowa learning technology commission and pilot program,  
3 establishment of a research triangle and clearinghouse, and  
4 allowing for the use of physical plant and equipment levy  
5 revenues for education technology.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF 177 EDUCATION

1 Section 1. Section 262.9, Code 2005, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 31. Establish a research triangle,  
4 defined by the three institutions of higher learning under the  
5 board's control, and clearinghouse for purposes of sharing the  
6 projects and results of kindergarten through grade twelve  
7 education technology initiatives occurring in Iowa's school  
8 districts, area education agencies, community colleges, and  
9 other higher education institutions, with the education  
10 community within and outside of the state. Dissemination of  
11 and access to planning, financing, curriculum, professional  
12 development, preservice training, project implementation  
13 strategies, and results shall be centralized to allow school  
14 districts from across the state to gain ideas from each other  
15 regarding the integration of technology in the classroom.

16 Sec. 2. Section 280A.1, Code 2005, is amended by adding  
17 the following new unnumbered paragraph:

18 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. Public and private partners  
19 shall be involved in the development of the planning,  
20 implementation, and outcomes for the initiative. A leadership  
21 group shall be established consisting of members representing  
22 kindergarten through grade twelve education stakeholders,  
23 community college and other higher education stakeholders, as  
24 well as members of the general assembly, and representatives  
25 from the governor's office, business, economic development,  
26 technology, and finance.

27 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 280A.2 IOWA LEARNING TECHNOLOGY  
28 COMMISSION -- MEMBERS.

29 1. COMMISSION CREATED. An Iowa learning technology  
30 commission is created to administer the Iowa learning  
31 technology initiative, including creation of a pilot program  
32 pursuant to section 280A.4, to be implemented through local  
33 and public-private partnerships that may include, but is not  
34 limited to, use of one-to-one student learning technology.

35 2. MEMBERS. The commission shall initially be appointed

1 no later than July 1, 2005, and shall consist of eighteen  
2 members appointed as follows:

3 a. Nine voting members who shall be members of the general  
4 public and shall be appointed as follows:

5 (1) Two members shall be appointed by the governor.

6 (2) Two members shall be appointed by the president of the  
7 senate.

8 (3) One member shall be appointed by the minority leader  
9 of the senate.

10 (4) Two members shall be appointed by the speaker of the  
11 house of representatives.

12 (5) One member shall be appointed by the minority leader  
13 of the house of representatives.

14 (6) One member who is a member of the state board of  
15 education shall be appointed by the chairperson of the state  
16 board.

17 b. Nine ex officio, nonvoting members who shall be  
18 appointed as follows:

19 (1) One member representing public postsecondary education  
20 institutions who is employed by a public postsecondary  
21 education institution shall be appointed by the governor.

22 (2) Three members representing three different school  
23 districts shall be appointed by the governor as follows:

24 (a) One member shall be a teacher employed by a school  
25 district or area education agency who is appointed from a list  
26 of three names submitted by a certified employee organization  
27 representing teachers licensed under chapter 272.

28 (b) One member shall be an administrator employed by a  
29 school district who is appointed from a list of three names  
30 submitted by a statewide organization representing  
31 administrators licensed under chapter 272.

32 (c) One member shall be a member of a board of directors  
33 of a school district who is appointed by a statewide  
34 organization representing school boards.

35 (3) One member representing area education agencies shall

1 be appointed by the governor from a list of three names  
2 submitted by area education agency administrators.

3 (4) One member who is a member of the senate shall be  
4 appointed by the president of the senate.

5 (5) One member who is a member of the senate shall be  
6 appointed by the minority leader of the senate.

7 (6) One member who is a member of the house of  
8 representatives shall be appointed by the speaker of the house  
9 of representatives.

10 (7) One member who is a member of the house of  
11 representatives shall be appointed by the minority leader of  
12 the house of representatives.

13 3. EXPERIENCE AND SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE. In appointing  
14 members to the commission, proper consideration shall be given  
15 to persons with experience or special knowledge in one or more  
16 of the following areas: education, business, economic  
17 development, technology, and finance.

18 4. BALANCE. Commission members shall be appointed in  
19 compliance with sections 69.16 and 69.16A. Appointments of  
20 public members shall be made to provide broad representation  
21 of the various geographical areas of the state insofar as  
22 possible.

23 5. CHAIRPERSONS. The commission shall elect a chairperson  
24 and a vice chairperson annually from among the voting members  
25 of the commission. A member shall not serve as a chairperson  
26 or vice chairperson for more than three consecutive years.

27 6. MEETINGS. The commission shall meet at least three  
28 times each year.

29 7. QUORUM. A majority of the voting members constitutes a  
30 quorum for the transaction of any official business.

31 8. TERMS OF MEMBERS. The members shall be appointed to  
32 three-year staggered terms and the terms shall commence and  
33 end as provided by section 69.19. If a vacancy occurs, a  
34 successor shall be appointed to serve the unexpired term. A  
35 successor shall be appointed in the same manner and subject to

1 the same qualifications as the original appointment to serve  
2 the unexpired term.

3 9. EXPENSES. Members of the commission are entitled to  
4 receive reimbursement for actual expenses incurred while  
5 engaged in the performance of official duties from funds  
6 appropriated to the department of education for that purpose,  
7 except that legislators' expenses shall be paid from funds  
8 appropriated by section 2.12.

9 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 280A.3 COMMISSION DUTIES.

10 The commission shall:

11 1. Develop and administer the Iowa learning technology  
12 pilot program in accordance with section 280A.4. The  
13 commission shall determine application and selection  
14 processes, and the minimum requirements for selection of pilot  
15 program participants.

16 2. Develop an accurate assessment, prior to implementing  
17 the pilot program as provided in section 280A.4 and with the  
18 collaboration of the department of education, of the current  
19 status of technology in Iowa's public school classrooms  
20 supported by reliable data. Data collected and assessed shall  
21 include the number of computers and their appropriate  
22 corresponding use; the costs for hardware, software, staff  
23 development, instructional staff, and technology support  
24 staff; sources of funds used for school district technology  
25 budgets; and an inventory of technology-based kindergarten  
26 through grade twelve curricula.

27 3. Identify and coordinate, in collaboration with the  
28 department of education, current public, private, federal,  
29 state, community college, and local revenue sources used for  
30 kindergarten through grade twelve educational technology at  
31 the school district, area education agency, and state levels.  
32 The commission shall utilize the information to determine a  
33 budget with recommended appropriations for statewide  
34 kindergarten through grade twelve education technology.

35 4. Submit the data assessed and the budget determined

1 pursuant to subsections 2 and 3 in a report to the house and  
2 senate standing education committees and the joint  
3 subcommittee on education appropriations of the general  
4 assembly by January 15, 2006.

5 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 280A.4 PILOT PROGRAM.

6 1. The Iowa learning technology commission created in  
7 section 280A.2 shall develop and administer the Iowa learning  
8 technology pilot program to encourage innovation, increase  
9 student achievement, and ensure that technology is used on the  
10 basis of best practices. The pilot program should be designed  
11 to obtain valid and reliable evidence of the impact on student  
12 achievement from the use of technology, which may include a  
13 "one-to-one" initiative; further demonstrate successful  
14 district-to-vendor relationships and possibilities; identify  
15 local district educational and fiscal planning and  
16 implementation strategies; and gain a better understanding of  
17 the current status of technology in Iowa schools. The goal of  
18 the pilot program is to provide results and additional  
19 information necessary for the general assembly to commit state  
20 funds toward implementation of a statewide technology  
21 initiative. From moneys appropriated to the department of  
22 education for purposes of the pilot program, the pilot program  
23 shall consist of state-funded competitive grants to Iowa  
24 school districts that are matched locally with public or  
25 private, federal, state, or local financing as determined by  
26 the applicant school district.

27 2. The pilot program shall include the following key  
28 components:

29 a. FOCUS ON INCREASING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
30 THROUGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING. The focus on student  
31 achievement should include identification, for purposes of the  
32 pilot program as well as for statewide implementation, of the  
33 age and developmentally appropriate use of educational  
34 technology that will engage the learner and result in improved  
35 student achievement opportunities.

1 b. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. Quality, ongoing  
2 professional development shall be provided, including best  
3 practices in the effective use of technology in the classroom.

4 c. CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT. Students' technology skills  
5 shall be integrated into the curriculum and assessed through  
6 the demonstration of learning within content areas.

7 d. EQUITABLE ACCESS. Grant awards under the pilot program  
8 shall be distributed to school districts that meet the  
9 selection requirements established by the commission in a  
10 manner that ensures that students throughout the state have  
11 equitable access to education opportunities offered via the  
12 use of technology and telecommunications.

13 e. EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PLANNING. Due consideration  
14 shall be given to future sustainability of learning technology  
15 resources by adapting to future educational needs and  
16 technology changes and by avoiding obsolescence of learning  
17 technology resources.

18 f. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. Grant moneys should be  
19 distributed in such a manner as to foster economic development  
20 across all regions of the state and to prepare students for an  
21 economy that embraces technology and innovation.

22 g. ACCOUNTABILITY. The pilot program shall include  
23 methods of measuring progress in the areas of increased  
24 student engagement; decreased disciplinary problems; increased  
25 use of computers for writing, analysis, and research; movement  
26 toward student-centered classrooms; increased parental  
27 involvement; and increased standardized test scores.

28 Sec. 6. Section 298.3, Code 2005, is amended by adding the  
29 following new subsection:

30 NEW SUBSECTION. 13. The purchase, notwithstanding the  
31 limitation provided in subsection 3, of computer hardware,  
32 servers, and preloaded software.

33 EXPLANATION

34 This bill establishes an Iowa learning technology  
35 commission to administer the Iowa learning technology

1 initiative, to be implemented through local and public-  
2 private partnerships, develop and administer an Iowa learning  
3 technology pilot program, collect and assess data relating to  
4 the current status of technology in Iowa's public school  
5 classrooms, and identify and coordinate current revenue  
6 sources used for K-12 educational technology; requires the  
7 state board of regents to establish a research triangle  
8 composed of the three regents universities and clearinghouse  
9 for purposes of sharing K-12 education technology initiatives;  
10 and expands the purposes for which physical plant and  
11 equipment levies may be used to include computer hardware,  
12 servers, and preloaded software.

13 The initiative administered by the commission may include,  
14 but is not limited to, establishment of a leadership group,  
15 use of one-to-one student learning technology and the creation  
16 of an Iowa learning technology pilot program to encourage  
17 innovation, increase student achievement, ensure that  
18 technology is used on the basis of best practices, further  
19 demonstrate successful district-to-vendor relationships and  
20 possibilities, and identify local district educational and  
21 fiscal planning and implementation strategies. The pilot  
22 program is to be designed to obtain valid and reliable  
23 evidence of the impact on student achievement from the use of  
24 technology. The goal of the pilot program is to provide  
25 results and additional information necessary for the general  
26 assembly to commit state funds toward implementation of a  
27 statewide technology initiative. The bill lists the key  
28 components of the pilot program.

29 From moneys appropriated to the department of education for  
30 purposes of the pilot program, state-funded competitive grants  
31 are to be made to Iowa school districts that match the state  
32 funds locally with public or private, federal, other state, or  
33 local financing as determined by the applicant school  
34 district.

35 The commission is directed to use the information it

1 collects regarding current revenue sources to determine a  
2 budget with recommended appropriations for statewide  
3 kindergarten through grade 12 education technology. The data  
4 and the budget and appropriations recommendations must be  
5 submitted in a report to the house and senate standing  
6 education committees and the joint subcommittee on education  
7 appropriations of the general assembly by January 15, 2006.

8 The commission consists of nine voting members who are  
9 members of the general public and nine ex officio, nonvoting  
10 members who are education professionals or education  
11 stakeholders.

12 The research triangle and clearinghouse to be established  
13 by the state board of regents is directed to share the  
14 projects and results of K-12 education technology initiatives  
15 occurring in Iowa's school districts, area education agencies,  
16 community colleges, and other higher education institutions,  
17 with the education community within and outside of the state.

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