

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

Act 827 of the Regular Session

As Engrossed: H2/18/09 H2/27/09 S3/26/09

A Bill

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

HOUSE BILL 1273

4  
5 By: Representatives Blount, Allen, T. Baker, Cash, Davis, Hardy, House, Hoyt, W. Lewellen, J.  
6 Roebuck, Shelby, Stewart, *Pierce*  
7 By: Senators Elliott, Steele

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10 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

11 AN ACT TO CREATE A PILOT PROGRAM FOR MOBILE  
12 LEARNING TECHNOLOGY IN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS;  
13 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

14  
15 **Subtitle**

16 TO CREATE A PILOT PROGRAM FOR MOBILE  
17 LEARNING TECHNOLOGY IN PUBLIC SCHOOL  
18 DISTRICTS.

19  
20  
21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

22  
23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 19, Subchapter 1, is amended  
24 to add an additional section to read as follows:

25 6-19-124. Mobile Learning Technology Pilot Program.

26 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

27 (1) In rural areas of the state, public school students may  
28 spend hours of unproductive time on the school bus being transported to and  
29 from school;

30 (2) The state has a critical need to increase its workforce in  
31 the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for national  
32 and global economic competitiveness;

33 (3) Long, unproductive bus commutes are transformed into  
34 productive learning environments in the fields of mathematics and science  
35 through the use of mobile learning technology and the accompanying



1 personalized learning experiences; and

2 (4) A statewide pilot program using mobile learning technology  
3 will develop untapped talent for the science, technology, engineering, and  
4 mathematics workforce.

5 (b)(1) The Mobile Learning Technology Pilot Program is created as a  
6 three-year pilot program to provide the mobile learning technology under this  
7 section to a total of up to twenty-five (25) public school districts.

8 (2) Each congressional district in the state may have up to  
9 five (5) public school districts participating in the pilot program.

10 (c) The Department of Education shall begin the pilot program with the  
11 2010-2011 school year and continue the pilot program through the end of the  
12 2012-2013 school year.

13 (d)(1) Each public school district participating in the pilot program  
14 shall equip up to three (3) school buses with wireless Internet service and  
15 purchase or obtain the following technology:

16 (A) Fifteen (15) laptop computers;

17 (B) Forty (40) portable devices for storing video files;

18 (C) Two (2) sets of media screens; and

19 (D) Math and science software for use with the laptop computers  
20 and video portable devices for storing video files.

21 (2) The public school district may use foundation funding  
22 provided for technology or other funding sources for purchases made under  
23 this subsection (d).

24 (e) The pilot program also shall provide:

25 (1) For each public school district participating in the pilot  
26 program, a community classroom teacher who is available for student questions  
27 and meets with pilot students weekly in a community classroom environment;

28 (2) Partnerships with institutions of higher education, the  
29 school district community, and corporate entities that will expose the pilot  
30 students to careers and professionals in the fields of science, technology,  
31 engineering, and mathematics;

32 (3) Measurements of specified outcomes, including without  
33 limitation:

34 (A) The number and types of courses completed by pilot  
35 students;

36 (B) The number and types of Advanced Placement courses

1 completed by the pilot students, and the Advanced Placement examination  
2 scores; and

3 (C) The results of Arkansas benchmark assessments for the  
4 pilot students;

5 (4) A comparison of the state benchmark assessments in pilot and  
6 non-pilot public school districts; and

7 (5) A survey of the pilot students' interests in careers and  
8 courses of study in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.

9 (f) As funds are appropriated and available, the department may hire  
10 consultants or experts with the knowledge of and appropriate experience with  
11 mobile learning technology for use on school buses as well as other  
12 qualifications established by the department.

13 (g)(1) At the end of the three-year period, the department, or its  
14 consultants or experts, shall prepare an evaluation of the pilot program and  
15 report on the evaluation to the House Committee on Education and to the  
16 Senate Committee on Education.

17 (2) Consultants or experts hired by the department shall be  
18 available to answer questions or provide information as requested by the  
19 House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

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21 */s/ Blount*

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23 **APPROVED: 4/6/2009**