

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.

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1273

4
5 By: Representatives Blount, Allen, T. Baker, Cash, Davis, Hardy, House, Hoyt, W. Lewellen, J.
6 Roebuck, Shelby, Stewart

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

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

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

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

24 6-19-124. Mobile Learning Technology Pilot Program.

25 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

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

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

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

36 (4) A statewide pilot program using mobile learning technology



1 will develop untapped talent for the science, technology, engineering, and
 2 mathematics workforce.

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

6 (2) Each congressional district in the state shall have at least
 7 five (5) public school districts participating in the pilot program.

8 (c) The Department of Education shall begin the pilot program with the
 9 2010-2011 school year and continue the pilot program through the end of the
 10 2012-2013 school year.

11 (d) Each public school district participating in the pilot program
 12 shall receive the following technology:

13 (1) Three (3) school buses equipped with wireless Internet
 14 service;

15 (2) Fifteen (15) laptop computers;

16 (3) Forty (40) portable devices for storing video files;

17 (4) Two (2) sets of media screens; and

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

20 (e) The pilot program also shall provide:

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

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

28 (3) Measurements of specified outcomes, including without
 29 limitation:

30 (A) The number and types of courses completed by pilot
 31 students;

32 (B) The number and types of Advanced Placement courses
 33 completed by the pilot students, and the Advanced Placement examination
 34 scores; and

35 (C) The results of Arkansas benchmark assessments for the
 36 pilot students;

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

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

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

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

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

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