

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

2 87th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2009

HOUSE BILL 1273

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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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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.

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Subtitle

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TO CREATE A PILOT PROGRAM FOR MOBILE

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LEARNING TECHNOLOGY IN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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DISTRICTS.

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

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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
36 personalized learning experiences; and



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

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

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

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

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

15 (A) Fifteen (15) laptop computers;

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

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

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

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

23 (e) The pilot program also shall provide:

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

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

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

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

35 (B) The number and types of Advanced Placement courses
36 completed by the pilot students, and the Advanced Placement examination

1 scores; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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20 */s/ Blount*
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