

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 681

BY SENATORS MAYNARD, ASHLEY, BOLEY, LEONHARDT

AND CLINE

[Introduced February 22, 2016;

Referred to the Committee on Education.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18-2E-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to providing teachers' lesson plans to be readily and easily available on the Internet to all
3 students and parents.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That §18-2E-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and
2 reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2E. HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

§18-2E-7. Providing for instruction and learning in all public schools.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that:

2 (1) The knowledge and skills children need to succeed are changing dramatically and that
3 West Virginia students must develop proficiency in the subject matter content, technology tools
4 and learning skills to succeed and prosper in life, in school and on the job;

5 (2) Students must be equipped to live in a multitasking, multifaceted, technology-driven
6 world;

7 (3) The provision technologies and software resources in grades prekindergarten through
8 twelve is necessary to meet the goal that high school graduates will be prepared fully for college,
9 other post-secondary education or gainful employment;

10 (4) This goal reflects a fundamental belief that the youth of the state exit the system
11 equipped with the skills, competencies and attributes necessary to succeed, to continue learning
12 throughout their lifetimes and to attain self-sufficiency;

13 (5) To promote learning, teachers must be competent in content and learning skills and
14 must be equipped to fully integrate technology to transform instructional practice and to support
15 skills acquisition;

16 (6) For students to learn technology skills, students and teachers must have equitable
17 access to high quality, technology tools and resources;

18 (7) When aligned with standards and curriculum, technology-based assessments can be

19 a powerful tool for teachers; and

20 (8) Teachers must understand how to use technology to create classroom assessments
21 for accurate, timely measurements of student proficiency in attainment of academic content.

22 (b) The state board shall ensure that the resources to be used to provide technology
23 services to students in grades prekindergarten through twelve are included in a West Virginia
24 Strategic Technology Learning Plan to be developed by the Department of Education as an
25 integral component of the county electronic strategic improvement plan required in section five of
26 this article. The provision of technologies and services to students and teachers shall be based
27 on a county technology plan developed by a team that includes school building-level professional
28 educators and is aligned with the goals and objectives of the West Virginia Strategic Technology
29 Learning Plan. This plan shall be an integral component of the county electronic strategic
30 improvement plan as required in section five of this article. Funds shall be allocated equitably to
31 county school systems following peer review of the plans that includes providing necessary
32 technical assistance prior to submission and allows timely review and approval by the West
33 Virginia Department of Education. Equitable allocation shall be defined by the state board and
34 may include per school-site equity for technologies requiring a site license or other per school
35 application. Technology tools purchased from appropriations for this section shall adhere to state
36 contract prices: *Provided*, That contingent upon approval of the county technology plan, counties
37 that identify, within that plan, specific software or peripheral equipment not listed on the state
38 contract, but necessary to support implementation, may request the West Virginia Department of
39 Education to secure state purchasing prices for those identified items. Total expenditure to
40 purchase these additional items may not exceed ten percent of the annual county allocation. To
41 the extent practicable, the technology shall be used:

42 (1) To maximize student access to learning tools and resources at all times including
43 during regular school hours, before and after school or class, in the evenings, on weekends and
44 holidays and for public education, noninstructional days and during vacations; and

45 (2) For student use for homework, remedial work, personalized learning, independent
46 learning, career planning and adult basic education.

47 (c) The implementation of this section should provide a technology infrastructure capable
48 of supporting multiple technology-based learning strategies designed to enable students to
49 achieve at higher academic levels. The technology infrastructure should facilitate student
50 development by addressing the following areas:

51 (1) Mastery of rigorous core academic subjects in grades prekindergarten through eight
52 by providing software, other technology resources or both aligned with state standards in reading,
53 mathematics, writing, science, social studies and learning tools;

54 (2) Mastery of rigorous core academic subjects in grades nine through twelve by providing
55 appropriate technology tools aligned with state standards for learning skills and technology tools;

56 (3) Attainment of skill outcomes for all students in the use of technology tools and learning
57 skills;

58 (4) Proficiency in new, emerging content;

59 (5) Participation in relevant, contextual instruction that uses dynamic, real-world contexts
60 that are engaging and meaningful for students, making learning relevant to life outside of school
61 and bridging the gap between how students live and how they learn in school;

62 (6) Ability to use digital and emerging technologies to manage information, communicate
63 effectively, think critically, solve problems, work productively as an individual and collaboratively
64 as part of a team and demonstrate personal accountability and other self-directional skills;

65 (7) Providing students with information on post-secondary educational opportunities,
66 financial aid and the skills and credentials required in various occupations that will help them
67 better prepare for a successful transition following high school;

68 (8) Providing greater access to advanced and other curricular offerings than could be
69 provided efficiently through traditional on-site delivery formats, including increasing student
70 access to quality distance learning curricula and online distance education tools;

71 (9) Providing resources for teachers in differentiated instructional strategies, technology
72 integration, sample lesson plans, curriculum resources and online staff development that enhance
73 student achievement; ~~and~~

74 (10) Providing resources to support basic skills acquisition and improvement at the above
75 mastery and distinguished levels; and

76 (11) Providing teachers' lesson plans are readily and easily available on the Internet to all
77 students and parents.

78 (d) Developed with input from appropriate stakeholder groups, the West Virginia Strategic
79 Technology Learning Plan shall be an integral component of the electronic strategic county
80 improvement plan as required in section five of this article. The West Virginia Strategic
81 Technology Learning Plan shall be comprehensive and shall address, but not necessarily be
82 limited to, the following provisions:

83 (1) Allocation of adequate resources to provide students with equitable access to
84 technology tools, including instructional offerings and appropriate curriculum, assessment and
85 technology integration resources aligned to both the content and rigor of state content standards
86 as well as to learning skills and technology tools;

87 (2) Providing students and staff with equitable access to a technology infrastructure that
88 supports the acquisition of skills in the use of technology, including the ability to access
89 information, solve problems, communicate clearly, make informed decisions, acquire new
90 knowledge, construct products, reports and systems and access online assessment systems;

91 (3) Inclusion of various technologies that enable and enhance the attainment of the skills
92 outcomes for all students;

93 (4) Collaboration with various partners, including parents, community organization, higher
94 education, schools of education in colleges and universities, employers and content providers;

95 (5) Seeking of applicable federal government funds, philanthropic funds, other partnership
96 funds or any combination of those types of funds to augment state appropriations and

97 encouraging the pursuit of funding through grants, gifts, donations or any other sources for uses
98 related to education technology;

99 (6) Sufficient bandwidth to support teaching and learning and to provide satisfactorily for
100 instructional management needs;

101 (7) Protection of the integrity and security of the network, as well as student and
102 administrative workstations;

103 (8) Flexibility to adjust the plan based on developing technology, federal and state
104 requirements and changing local school and county needs;

105 (9) Incorporation of findings based upon validation from research-based evaluation
106 findings from previous West Virginia-based evaluation projects;

107 (10) Continuing study of emerging technologies for application in a learning environment
108 and inclusion in the technology plan, as appropriate;

109 (11) An evaluation component to determine the effectiveness of the program and make
110 recommendations for ongoing implementation;

111 (12) A program of embedded, sustained professional development for teachers that is
112 strategically developed to support a thorough and efficient education for all students and that
113 aligns with state standards for technology, integrates technology skills into educational practice
114 and supports the implementation of software, technology and assessment resources in the
115 classroom;

116 (13) Providing for uniformity in technological hardware and software standards and
117 procedures;

118 (14) The strategy for ensuring that the capabilities and capacities of the technology
119 infrastructure is adequate for acceptable performance of the technology being implemented in the
120 public schools;

121 (15) Providing for a comprehensive, statewide uniform, integrated education management
122 and information system for data collection and reporting to the Department of Education and the

123 public;

124 (16) Providing for an effective model for the distance delivery, virtual delivery or both types
125 of delivery of instruction in subjects where there exists low student enrollment or a shortage of
126 certified teachers or where the delivery method substantially improves the quality of an
127 instructional program such as the West Virginia Virtual School;

128 (17) Providing a strategy to implement, support and maintain technology in the public
129 schools;

130 (18) Providing a strategy to provide ongoing support and assistance to teachers in
131 integrating technology into instruction such as with technology integration specialists and
132 technology system specialists;

133 (19) A method of allowing public education to take advantage of appropriate bulk
134 purchasing abilities and to purchase from competitively bid contracts initiated through the
135 southern regional education board educational technology cooperative and the America
136 TelEdCommunications Alliance;

137 (20) Compliance with United States Department of Education regulations and Federal
138 Communications Commission requirements for federal E-rate discounts; and

139 (21) Other provisions as considered appropriate, necessary or both to align with applicable
140 guidelines, policies, rules, regulations and requirements of the West Virginia Legislature, the
141 Board of Education and the Department of Education.

142 (e) Any state code and budget references to the Basic Skills/Computer Education Program
143 and the SUCCESS Initiative will be understood to refer to the statewide technology initiative
144 referenced in this section, commonly referred to as the 21st Century Tools for 21st Century
145 Schools Technology Initiative.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide teachers' lesson plans to be readily and easily available on the Internet to all students and parents.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.