

By Representative Jennings

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to workforce improvement
3 through access to technology; providing
4 purposes; providing goals; providing for
5 purposes and uses of certain moneys; providing
6 an effective date.

7
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9
10 Section 1. (1) It is the purpose of this act to make
11 this state a more e-commerce, e-friendly state, to provide
12 access to technology to create a more well-rounded student and
13 citizen, to enhance students' and citizens' lives through
14 access to technology, to increase the capacity of state and
15 local educational and workforce readiness agencies to improve
16 access to technology, student achievement, and readiness for
17 work, particularly for students in high-poverty areas and in
18 low performing schools by providing an opportunity for
19 students to have access to technology resources, and to
20 enhance the ability of teachers to integrate technology into
21 curriculum in an effort to improve student achievement and
22 readiness for work. These efforts shall include, but are not
23 limited to:

24 (a) Use of technology to position this state as an
25 e-commerce leader and provide for a more e-friendly state
26 environment.

27 (b) Promote access to technology to create a more
28 well-rounded student and citizen by gaining academic, life,
29 and employment skills to provide opportunities for productive
30 lives.

31

1 (c) Make effective use of new technologies and
2 technology applications, networks, and electronic learning
3 resources.

4 (d) Use research-based teaching practices that are
5 linked to advanced technologies.

6 (e) Promote creative learning environments that enable
7 students to achieve higher standards and assessments in core
8 academic subjects and workforce-ready skills through greater
9 access to technology and the integration of educational
10 technology into instruction.

11 (2) The Digital Divide Trust Fund, if created by law,
12 shall be administered by the Office of Information Technology
13 within the Executive Office of the Governor, under the
14 direction of a steering council consisting of the heads of the
15 State Technology Office; Workforce Florida, Inc.;
16 ITFlorida.com; the Department of Education; and the Agency for
17 Workforce Innovation. Funds shall be provided by state
18 appropriation as well as from private entities wishing to
19 participate in public and private information technology
20 partnerships to enhance student academic achievement and
21 workforce readiness.

22 (3) Moneys may be made available from the fund to:

23 (a) Adapt or expand existing and new applications of
24 technology to meet the goals of this section.

25 (b) Develop programs to integrate advanced
26 technologies into curriculum and use of those technologies to
27 create new learning environments, including training in the
28 use of technology to access data and resources to develop
29 curricula and instructional materials designed to enhance
30 performance and promote workforce-ready skills.

31

1 (c) Develop opportunities for teachers, students, and
2 parents to retrieve web-based learning resources.

3 (d) Acquire wireless telecommunications, hand-held
4 devices, modeling or simulations tools, distance learning
5 networks, and other advanced technologies with classroom
6 applications.

7 (e) Acquire proven and effective technology-based
8 curricula programs that will help students achieve high
9 standards and enable parental and family access to advanced
10 telecommunications, and support communication between family
11 and school.

12 (f) Acquire wiring and access to advanced technologies
13 and telecommunications.

14 (g) Use web-based learning resources, including those
15 that provide access to challenging academic courses as well as
16 workforce readiness skill courses.

17 (h) Assist in the use of technology to promote parent
18 and family involvement and in support of communications
19 between student, teacher, family, and school.

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

21
22 *****

23 HOUSE SUMMARY

24 Provides purposes and goals for workforce improvement
25 through access to technology. Provides for purposes and
26 uses of moneys in the Digital Divide Trust Fund, if
created by law.