

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 2008

Amendment No. Barcode 421582

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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Senator Klein moved the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

On page 21, between lines 11 and 12,

insert:

Section 13. Legislative findings and intent; Digital Divide Council; powers and duties; program objectives and goals; review and assessment of program performances; annual report.

(1) Legislative findings and intent.--The Legislature finds as follows:

(a) frequent access to use of information technology and possession of the knowledge and skills required to use information technology productively is becoming increasingly important to being competitively qualified for high skill/high wage employment;

(b) the availability of reasonable opportunities to have frequent access to use of information technology and to obtain the education and training necessary to acquire the knowledge and skills required to use information technology

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1 productively is critical to becoming competitively qualified
2 for high skill/high wage employment;

3 (c) families that are living near or below the poverty
4 level are without adequate economic resources to have
5 reasonable opportunities to obtain frequent access to use of
6 information technology or the education and training necessary
7 to acquire the knowledge and skills required to become
8 competitively qualified for high skill/high wage employment;

9 (d) the absence of such economic resources divides
10 such families from those who have adequate economic resources
11 to have such opportunities, places such families at-risk of
12 never realizing their employment and income earning potential,
13 and prevents the state's economy from prospering to the extent
14 it could if such families realized their employment and income
15 earning potential; and

16 (e) the divide between the members of such at-risk
17 families and those who have adequate economic resources to
18 have reasonable opportunities to obtain frequent use of
19 information technology and the education and training
20 necessary to acquire the knowledge and skills required to
21 become competitively qualified for high skill/high wage
22 employment could be reduced, and the economy of the state
23 could be enhanced, by the design and implementation of
24 programs that provide such opportunities to members of such
25 at-risk families.

26
27 It is the intent of the Legislature to provide the authority
28 and resources reasonably necessary to facilitate design and
29 implementation of such programs.

30 (2) Digital Divide Council.--There is created in the
31 State Technology Office a Digital Divide Council. The Council

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1 shall be constituted as follows:

2 (a) the Chief Information Officer in the State
3 Technology Office;

4 (b) the Director of the Office of Tourism, Trade and
5 Economic Development in the Executive Office of the Governor;

6 (c) the President of Workforce Florida, Inc.;

7 (d) the Director of the Agency for Workforce
8 Innovation;

9 (e) the Chair of itflorida.com, Inc.;

10 (f) the Commissioner of Education;

11 (g) the Executive Director of the State Board of
12 Community Colleges;

13 (h) the Executive Director of the State Board for
14 Career Education;

15 (i) the Chair of the Network Access Point of the
16 Americas;

17 (j) a representative of the information technology
18 industry in Florida appointed by the Speaker of the Florida
19 House of Representatives;

20 (k) a representative of the information technology
21 industry in Florida appointed by the President of the Florida
22 Senate.

23 (l) two members of the Florida House of
24 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, one of
25 whom shall be a member of the Republican caucus, and the other
26 of whom shall be a member of the Democratic caucus; and

27 (m) two members of the Florida Senate appointed by the
28 President of the Senate, one of whom shall be a member of the
29 Republican caucus, and the other of whom shall be a member of
30 the Democratic caucus.

31 (3) Term of appointed members of Council; vacancies;

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1 compensation of members.--

2 The appointed members of the Council shall serve an
3 initial term of one year commencing July 1, 2001, and ending
4 June 30, 2002, and successor appointees shall serve a term of
5 two years, the first of which shall commence July 1, 2002 and
6 end June 30, 2004. Successive two year terms shall commence
7 and end on the same schedule in subsequent years. Any vacancy
8 in the membership of the Council resulting from resignation,
9 incapacity or death shall be filled within 30 days from the
10 date the vacancy is effective. The appointed members of the
11 Council shall serve without compensation, but such appointees
12 and the other members of the Council shall be entitled to
13 receive per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses as
14 provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statute. Payment of such per
15 diem and reimbursement of such travel expenses shall be made
16 from revenues deposited in the Digital Divide Trust Fund and
17 from appropriations authorized to be used for such purposes.

18 (4) Council meetings; election of officers.--The
19 Council shall conduct its initial meeting by August 1, 2001,
20 and shall meet thereafter at least once every 60 days. In its
21 initial meeting, the members of the Council shall elect one of
22 themselves to serve as Chair and another to serve as
23 Vice-Chair, each for a term of one year from the date of the
24 election. Any vacancy in the offices of Chair and Vice-Chair
25 resulting from resignation, incapacity or death shall be
26 filled by similar election within 30 days from the date the
27 vacancy is effective.

28 (5) Administrative and technical support; payment of
29 support costs.--The State Technology Office shall provide such
30 administrative and technical support to the Council as is
31 reasonably necessary for the Council to effectively and timely

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1 carry out its duties and responsibilities. All direct and
2 indirect costs of providing such support and performing the
3 other duties imposed on the State Technology Office related to
4 design and implementation of the programs authorized above
5 shall be paid from revenues deposited in the Digital Divide
6 Trust Fund and from appropriations authorized to be used for
7 such purposes.

8 (6) Powers and duties of Council.--The Digital Divide
9 Council, through the State Technology Office, is authorized
10 and empowered to facilitate the design and implementation of
11 programs that are aimed at achieving the objectives and goals
12 stated in this section. The State Technology Office shall
13 present and demonstrate to the Council the design
14 characteristics and functional elements of each program
15 proposed to be implemented to achieve the objectives and goals
16 stated in this section, and each such program shall be
17 reviewed and approved by the Council before being
18 implemented. Such programs shall initially be implemented as
19 pilot programs in a minimum of six different areas of the
20 state to develop model programs that are likely to be
21 successful if deployed throughout the state. The areas of the
22 state where the pilot programs are implemented shall be
23 selected by the Digital Divide Council with the objectives of
24 testing the merits of the programs in each geographic region
25 of the state and providing equal exposure of the programs to
26 urban and rural communities alike. Implementation of all such
27 pilot and model programs shall be administered by and through
28 the local workforce development boards, and each such board
29 shall coordinate and confirm the ready availability and timely
30 delivery of all elements of such programs to ensure the
31 highest probability of such programs achieving their intended

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1 results.

2 (7) Program objectives and goals.--The programs
3 authorized by this section shall have the following objectives
4 and goals:

5 (a) maximizing efficient and productive use of
6 existing facilities, equipment, personnel, programs and funds
7 available from federal, state and local government agencies,
8 and from any private person or entity;

9 (b) using innovative concepts employing newly
10 developed technologies in educating and training those who are
11 enrolled in the programs authorized by this section;

12 (c) developing viable partnerships between public
13 agencies and private persons and entities based on mutual
14 commitment to responsible and dedicated participation in
15 designing and implementing the programs authorized by this
16 section;

17 (d) recruiting, enrolling, retaining and graduating as
18 many at-risk family members as feasible to ensure that they
19 have reasonable opportunities to obtain access to frequent use
20 of information technology and the education and training
21 necessary to competitively qualify them for high skill/high
22 wage employment;

23 (e) reducing the number of underachieving and failing
24 students in the state's public school systems who are members
25 of at-risk families;

26 (f) reducing the number of underemployed and
27 unemployed members of at-risk families;

28 (g) using information technology to facilitate
29 achievement of Sunshine State Standards by all children
30 enrolled in the state's K-12 school system who are members of
31 at-risk families;

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1 (h) training teachers in the state's K-12 school
2 system to efficiently and effectively use information
3 technology to plan, teach and administer all courses of
4 instruction required and available by election of children
5 enrolled in the system;

6 (i) using information technology to enable members of
7 at-risk families who are no longer enrolled in K-12 schools to
8 obtain the education needed to achieve successful completion
9 of general education development test preparation to earn a
10 high school diploma, an applied technology diploma, a
11 vocational certificate, an associate of arts degree, or a
12 baccalaureate degree;

13 (j) bridging the digital divide in developing a
14 competitive workforce to meet the employment needs of Florida
15 based information technology businesses and establishing
16 Florida as having the most information technology ready
17 workforce in the western hemisphere.

18 (8) Monitoring, reviewing and evaluating program
19 performances; reporting results.--The Digital Divide Council,
20 through the State Technology Office, shall continually
21 monitor, review and evaluate the progress of performances
22 realized from implementation of the programs authorized by
23 this section. The State Technology Office shall prepare and
24 submit a report to the Council at least 10 days in advance of
25 each of its meetings subsequent to its initial meeting and
26 each such report shall, at a minimum, identify and describe
27 the functional elements of each program being implemented, and
28 identify and describe the facilities, equipment, personnel,
29 programs and funds used to design and implement the
30 program. For each such program, the report shall also
31 identify by name, address, age and sex the school-age

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1 children, and their older siblings and parents who are
2 enrolled in the program, state the educational level achieved
3 by each enrollee as of the date he or she enrolled in the
4 program, state the attendance and achievement level recorded
5 for each enrollee in the program, evaluate the progress each
6 enrollee is making toward successful completion of the
7 program, and identify by name, address, age and sex each
8 enrollee who successfully completes the program. For each
9 such program that is designed to prepare enrollees for high
10 skill/high wage employment, the report shall identify each
11 enrollee who successfully completes the program, describe each
12 such employment position for which each enrollee has applied,
13 identify by name, address and nature of business each Florida
14 based employer to whom each such application for employment
15 has been addressed, state the results each enrollee obtained
16 from making each such application, and describe the nature of
17 any employment obtained and terms of compensation being earned
18 from such employment by each enrollee as a result of making
19 such applications.

20 (9) Annual report.--By March 1, 2002, the Digital
21 Divide Council, through the State Technology Office, shall
22 report to the Executive Office of the Governor, the Speaker of
23 the Florida House of Representatives, and the President of the
24 Florida Senate the results of the Council's monitoring,
25 reviewing and evaluating such programs since their inception,
26 and the Council's recommendations as to whether such programs
27 should be continued and expanded to achieve the objectives and
28 goals stated in this section.

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1 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

2 And the title is amended as follows:

3 On page 3, line 27, after the semicolon

4

5 and insert:

6 stating legislative findings and intent;
7 providing for creation of the Digital Divide
8 Council; authorizing design and implementation
9 of programs; expressing program objectives and
10 goals; providing for review and assessment of
11 program performances;

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