

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

**BILL #:** HB 563                      Harnessing The Power of Education Technology  
**SPONSOR(S):** Clark  
**TIED BILLS:**                              **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 116

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REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Subcommittee on Education Innovation		Porter	Bohannon
2) Education K-20			
3) Subcommittee on Education Appropriations			
4) Appropriations			
5)			

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### SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill creates the 'Harnessing the Power of Education Technology Advisory Council' within the Florida Department of Education. The purpose of the Council is to recommend policies and actions regarding the use of technology in public education, how technology can be leveraged to positively impact student academic achievement, and how school-based deployments can effectively bridge the digital divide.

The bill identifies the 15 members of the Council, the length of their terms, conditions under which a member may be removed, frequency of Council meeting and reimbursement provisions.

The bill requires a report to the Governor, Speaker of the House and Senate President by October 15, 2005.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2004.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

**STORAGE NAME:** h0563.edk.doc  
**DATE:** March 11, 2004

## FULL ANALYSIS

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. DOES THE BILL:

- |                                      |                              |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Reduce government?                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 2. Lower taxes?                      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom?        | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families?                 | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a “no” above, please explain:

The bill creates an advisory council under the Department of Education to examine the impact that education technology initiatives have had on bridging the digital divide, improving teaching, learning and standardized test scores as a measurement of learning quality.

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill creates the Harnessing the Power of Education Technology Advisory Council for administrative purposes within the Department of Education.

##### Committee Membership

Members of the proposed Council include:

- The Commissioner of Education, who shall serve as chair
- Two representatives appointed by the Governor
- Three members of the Florida Senate, specifically:
  - The Chairman of the Education committee
  - A member of the minority party recommended by the minority leader
  - A member chosen by the President of the Senate
- Three members of the Florida House of Representatives, specifically:
  - The Chairman of the Education committee
  - A member of the minority party recommended by the minority leader
  - A member chosen by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
- The President of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents
- The President of the Florida Education Association
- Two representatives who are education/technology coordinators for local school districts
  - One representative must be from an urban district
  - One must be from a rural district
- The President of the Florida Chamber of Commerce
- The President of the Florida School Boards Association

Each member may appoint a designee to serve on his or her behalf. However, any designee must be in a position that reports directly to the member.

Member appointments, council meetings and member reimbursements would abide by the following rules:

- Members of the council shall be appointed to terms beginning July 1, 2004, and ending December 31, 2005.
- A member may be removed by the appointing officer for cause or for being absent from three consecutive meetings.
- Any member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

- The council shall meet at least quarterly, but may meet upon the call of the chair. All actions taken by the council shall be based upon approval by a simple majority of those members present.
- Members of the council shall be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses as provided in section 112.061, Florida Statutes. Members who are state officers or employees may be reimbursed for such expenses by their respective agencies.

The Council's primary mission shall be to:

- Examine large-scale, innovative education technology initiatives, specifically regarding wireless mobile computing devices, and shall analyze the impact that such initiatives have on teaching, learning, and student achievement, including standardized testing.
- Study the impact that the initiatives have had on bridging the digital divide.
- Develop effective methods of measuring student achievement and learning using technology.
- Recommend a statewide public-private initiative to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives regarding the effective use of technology to improve student academic achievement.
- Create ad hoc issue-oriented workgroups to make recommendations to the council and the Governor. Such workgroups may include representatives of the private sector and of the public sector.
- Identify and recommend to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives sources for funding the initiative.

The Council shall be required to produce a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, due by October 15, 2005.

#### C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 – Creates the Power of Education Technology Advisory Council including membership and duties.

Section 2 – Requires the council to submit a report the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House.

Section 3 – Provides and effective date.

## II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

#### A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

##### 1. Revenues:

The bill has no impact on the revenues of the state.

##### 2. Expenditures:

The bill provides that members of the council must be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

Per diem and travel expenses would be estimated at \$500 per person per meeting. The bill states the Council will be in existence for 18 months or 6 quarters. For 15 Council members, the total expenditure would be approximately \$7,500 per meeting or \$45,000 for 6 quarterly meetings. Since the Department currently performs many of these functions, staff costs could be absorbed.

**B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:**

1. Revenues:

The bill does not impact local governments.

2. Expenditures:

The bill does not impact local governments.

**C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:**

The bill does not have a material impact on the private sector.

**D. FISCAL COMMENTS:**

The duties of the proposed Council potentially duplicate the tasks and responsibilities of existing offices within the Department of Education.

**III. COMMENTS**

**A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:**

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill does not require a city or county to spend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds.

2. Other:

None.

**B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

The bill does not create any rulemaking authority.

**C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:**

The Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement, within the Department of Education, presently conducts activities related to developing effective methods of measuring student achievement and learning using technology (as is addressed in the bill). The Office of Educational Technology, within the Department of Education, promotes the use of technology to enhance education and improve student performance.

**IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES**