

HB 0563

2004

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to education; creating the Harnessing the
 3 Power of Education Technology Advisory Council; providing
 4 for membership, powers, and duties; requiring a report;
 5 providing an effective date.

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

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 9 Section 1. (1) The Harnessing the Power of Education
 10 Technology Advisory Council is created, for administrative
 11 purposes, within the Department of Education.

12 (2) The purpose of the council is to recommend policies
 13 and actions regarding the use of technology in public education,
 14 how technology can be leveraged to positively impact student
 15 academic achievement, and how school-based deployments can
 16 effectively bridge the digital divide.

17 (3) The council shall be composed of 15 members as
 18 follows:

19 (a) The Commissioner of Education, who shall serve as
 20 chair.

21 (b) Two representatives appointed by the Governor.

22 (c) Three members of the Senate, including the chair of
 23 the Education Committee, a member of the minority party
 24 recommended by the minority leader, and a member chosen by the
 25 President of the Senate.

26 (d) Three members of the House of Representatives,
 27 including the chair of the Education Committee, a member of the
 28 minority party recommended by the minority leader, and a member
 29 chosen by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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30 (e) The President of the Florida Association of District
 31 School Superintendents.

32 (f) The President of the Florida Education Association.

33 (g) Two representatives who are education/technology
 34 coordinators for local school districts. One representative must
 35 be from an urban district and one must be from a rural district.

36 (h) The President of the Florida Chamber of Commerce.

37 (i) The President of the Florida School Boards
 38 Association.

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

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

49 (5) The council shall meet at least quarterly, but may
 50 meet upon the call of the chair. All actions taken by the
 51 council shall be based upon approval by a simple majority of
 52 those members present.

53 (6) Members of the council shall be reimbursed for per
 54 diem and travel expenses as provided in section 112.061, Florida
 55 Statutes. Members who are state officers or employees may be
 56 reimbursed for such expenses by their respective agencies.

57 (7) The council shall:

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58 (a) Examine large-scale, innovative education technology
 59 initiatives, specifically regarding wireless mobile computing
 60 devices, and shall analyze the impact that such initiatives have
 61 on teaching, learning, and student achievement, including
 62 standardized testing.

63 (b) Study the impact that the initiatives have had on
 64 bridging the digital divide.

65 (c) Develop effective methods of measuring student
 66 achievement and learning using technology.

67 (d) Recommend a statewide public-private initiative to the
 68 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
 69 House of Representatives regarding the effective use of
 70 technology to improve student academic achievement.

71 (e) Create ad hoc issue-oriented workgroups to make
 72 recommendations to the council and the Governor. Such workgroups
 73 may include representatives of the private sector and of the
 74 public sector.

75 (f) Identify and recommend to the Governor, the President
 76 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
 77 sources for funding the initiative.

78 Section 2. The council shall submit a report to the
 79 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
 80 House of Representatives by October 15, 2005.

81 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.