

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The PreK-12 Committee recommends the following:

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3 **Council/Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to discounted computers and Internet
7 access for students; creating a program to offer
8 discounted computers and Internet access to public school
9 students in grades 5 through 12; requiring the Department
10 of Education to negotiate terms with computer
11 manufacturers and broadband Internet access providers;
12 requiring the department to adopt rules, including rules
13 for provision of technical training to students; requiring
14 the Digital Divide Council to implement a pilot project to
15 assist low-income students with purchasing discounted
16 computers and Internet access services; requiring the
17 council to identify eligibility criteria for participation
18 in the pilot project; providing for funding and
19 authorizing the council to accept grants to implement the
20 pilot project; providing an effective date.

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

HB 1613

2005
CS

24 Section 1. Discounted computers and Internet access for
25 students.--

26 (1) There is created a program to offer computers and
27 Internet access at a discounted price to students enrolled in
28 grades 5 through 12 in a public school in the state.

29 (2) The Department of Education shall negotiate with
30 computer manufacturers concerning:

31 (a) The prices of discounted computers and whether
32 computer accessories such as printers or scanners will be
33 offered to the students at reduced prices.

34 (b) Specialized software and hardware packages, including,
35 but not limited to:

36 1. A word processor;

37 2. Software and hardware necessary to enable broadband
38 Internet access; and

39 3. An operating system.

40 (c) The type of warranty that is to be provided to the
41 students and whether an extended warranty will be available to
42 the students and under what terms.

43 (3) The Department of Education shall negotiate with
44 broadband Internet access providers concerning the prices of
45 discounted broadband Internet access packages. In areas in which
46 broadband Internet access is not currently available, the
47 department shall negotiate with non-broadband Internet access
48 providers.

49 (4) The Department of Education shall adopt rules
50 concerning:

51 (a) How to integrate into this program the provision of
 52 computer or technical training to students in their respective
 53 school districts.

54 (b) How parents and students may be notified of the
 55 discounted computer and Internet access choices available.

56 (c) The distribution of eligibility certificates to the
 57 students, the locations at which discounted computers and
 58 Internet access services are available for purchase, and how
 59 students may obtain and pay for the equipment and services
 60 covered by this program.

61 Section 2. Discounted computers and Internet access for
 62 low-income students; pilot project.--

63 (1) The Digital Divide Council, in consultation with the
 64 Department of Education, shall implement a pilot project to
 65 assist low-income students to purchase discounted computers and
 66 Internet access services as negotiated by the department. The
 67 council shall identify counties, grade levels, and low-income
 68 eligibility criteria for participation in the pilot project.

69 (2) The pilot project shall be funded in an amount to be
 70 determined in the General Appropriations Act. The Digital Divide
 71 Council is authorized to accept grants from additional public
 72 and private sources to implement the pilot project.

73 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.