

Bill No. SB 1724

Barcode 472368

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Education (Wilson) recommended the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

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

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

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

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

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

1. A word processor;

2. Software and hardware necessary to enable broadband

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1 Internet access; and

2 3. An operating system.

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

6 (3) The Department of Education shall negotiate with  
7 broadband Internet access providers concerning the prices of  
8 discounted broadband Internet access packages. In areas in  
9 which broadband Internet access is not currently available,  
10 the department shall negotiate with non-broadband Internet  
11 access providers.

12 (4) The Department of Education shall adopt rules  
13 concerning:

14 (a) How to integrate into this program the provision  
15 of computer or technical training to students in their  
16 respective school districts.

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

19 (c) The distribution of eligibility certificates to  
20 the students, the locations at which discounted computers and  
21 Internet access services are available for purchase, and how  
22 students may obtain and pay for the equipment and services  
23 covered by this program.

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

26 (1) The Digital Divide Council, in consultation with  
27 the Department of Education, shall implement a pilot project  
28 to assist low-income students to purchase discounted computers  
29 and Internet access services as negotiated by the department.  
30 The council shall identify counties, grade levels, and  
31 low-income eligibility criteria for participation in the pilot

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1 project.

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

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

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

10 And the title is amended as follows:

11           Delete everything before the enacting clause

12

13 and insert:

14                           A bill to be entitled

15           An act relating to discounted computers and  
16           Internet access for students; creating a  
17           program to offer discounted computers and  
18           Internet access to public school students in  
19           grades 5 through 12; requiring the Department  
20           of Education to negotiate terms with computer  
21           manufacturers and broadband Internet access  
22           providers; requiring the department to adopt  
23           rules, including rules for provision of  
24           technical training to students; requiring the  
25           Digital Divide Council to implement a pilot  
26           project to assist low-income students with  
27           purchasing discounted computers and Internet  
28           access services; requiring the council to  
29           identify eligibility criteria for participation  
30           in the pilot project; providing for funding and  
31           authorizing the council to accept grants to

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1           implement the pilot project; providing an  
2           effective date.  
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