



1           (2) The Department of Education may negotiate with  
2 computer manufacturers or nonprofit corporations that obtain  
3 reconditioned computer hardware concerning:

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

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

9           1. A word processor;

10           2. Software and hardware necessary to enable broadband  
11 Internet access; and

12           3. An operating system.

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

16           (3) The Department of Education shall negotiate with  
17 broadband Internet access providers concerning the prices of  
18 discounted broadband Internet access packages. In areas in  
19 which broadband Internet access is not currently available,  
20 the department shall negotiate with non-broadband Internet  
21 access providers.

22           (4) The State Board of Education, in conjunction with  
23 the Digital Divide Council, shall adopt rules concerning:

24           (a) How to integrate into this program the provision  
25 of computer or technical training to students in their  
26 respective school districts.

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

29           (c) The distribution of eligibility certificates to  
30 the students, the locations at which discounted computers and  
31 Internet access services are available for purchase, and how

1 students may obtain and pay for the equipment and services  
2 covered by this program.

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

5 (1) The Digital Divide Council, in consultation with  
6 the Department of Education, shall implement a pilot project  
7 to assist low-income students to purchase discounted computers  
8 and Internet access services as negotiated by the department.  
9 The council shall identify counties, grade levels, and  
10 low-income eligibility criteria for participation in the pilot  
11 project.

12 (2) The pilot project shall be funded in an amount to  
13 be determined in the General Appropriations Act. The Digital  
14 Divide Council may accept grants from additional public and  
15 private sources to implement the pilot project.

16 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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18 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
19 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
20 Senate Bill 502

21 The committee substitute makes a technical change that the  
22 State Board of Education rather than the Department of  
23 Education shall make rules for the program.