Conference Engrossed

State of Arizona
Senate
Forty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2006

SENATE BILL 1512

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 9, ARTICLE 8, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-1044; AMENDING TITLE 41, CHAPTER 27, ARTICLE 2, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 41-3016.01; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION; RELATING TO COMPUTER-BASED EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Title 15, chapter 9, article 8, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-1044, to read:

15-1044. Arizona e-learning task force; duties

A. The Arizona e-learning task force is established. The task force shall consist of the following members who shall be appointed on or before August 31, 2006:

1. Two representatives of the business community with expertise in technology issues, one of whom shall be appointed by the governor and one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

2. Two persons who shall have a background in psychometrics, one of whom shall be appointed by the president of the senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

3. Two persons who have expertise in curriculum development, one of whom shall be appointed by the governor and one of whom shall be appointed by the president of the senate.

4. One teacher who provides instruction in grade six, seven, eight or nine in a public, private or charter school and who is appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

5. One person who represents a public, private or charter school that provides instruction in grade six, seven, eight or nine and who is appointed by the governor.

6. One person who represents an entity that has at least ten years of experience in teacher training and professional development coursework and that has provided such training and coursework to at least five thousand teachers and who is appointed by the president of the senate.

7. The superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent’s designee.

8. The director of the government information technology agency or the director’s designee.

B. The task force shall annually elect a chairperson from among the members of the task force. The department of education shall provide staff support for the task force.

C. The initial members appointed pursuant to subsection A, paragraphs 1 through 6 shall assign themselves by lot to terms of one, two and three years in office. All subsequent members appointed pursuant to subsection A, paragraphs 1 through 6 serve three year terms. The chairperson shall notify the appointing authority of these terms.

D. The task force shall:

1. Examine e-learning programs in other states.

2. Analyze potential methods to implement e-learning programs in this state.

3. Develop innovative e-learning solutions.

4. Annually report to the legislature regarding e-learning programs and solutions.
E. TASK FORCE MEMBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION, BUT TASK
FORCE MEMBERS WHO ARE APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPHS 1
THROUGH 6 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES PURSUANT TO TITLE 38,
CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 2 FROM MONIES APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Sec. 2. Title 41, chapter 27, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
amended by adding section 41-3016.01, to read:

A. THE E-LEARNING TASK FORCE TERMINATES ON JULY 1, 2016.
B. SECTION 15-1044 IS REPEALED ON JANUARY 1, 2017.

Sec. 3. E-learning pilot program
A. The department of education, in cooperation with the e-learning
task force established by section 15-1044, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added
by this act, shall establish an e-learning pilot program at up to ten
schools.
B. On or before December 15, 2006, the e-learning task force, in
cooperation with the department of education, shall prepare an actionable
request for proposals to implement a three-year e-learning pilot program to
help participating schools to achieve academic and motivational gains based
on the state and national average and shall submit the preliminary request
for proposals to the joint legislative budget committee for review and
comment. The request for proposals shall require all responses to meet the
government information technology agency standards. The request shall
include:
1. The scope of work, including programmatic, performance and
technical requirements, conceptual design, specifications and functional and
operational elements for the delivery of the completed components of the
pilot program.
2. A description of the qualifications required of the entity or group
of entities that will be selected for the pilot program.
3. Copies of the contract documents that the successful bidder or
group of bidders will be expected to sign.
4. A timeline for the design and completion of the pilot program.
5. The estimated cost of the components of the pilot program.
6. Any other information relevant to the pilot program.
C. Based on the comments received from the joint legislative budget
committee, the task force shall finalize the request for proposals and the
department of education shall issue the finalized request for proposals
within thirty days after the hearing conducted by the joint legislative
budget committee.
D. The department of education shall award a contract or contracts
within one hundred eighty days after the issuance of the finalized request
for proposals.
E. At least ten days before the department of education enters into a
contract or contracts that result from the request for proposals, the
superintendent of public instruction shall submit the provisions of the
contract or contracts for review by the joint legislative budget committee in
executive session.

F. The overall e-learning system shall be implemented through a
three-year pilot program by an entity or a group of entities that delivers
the following elements:
1. Program management by an organization that is capable of each of
the following:
(a) Delivering reliable psychometric analysis of academic gains.
(b) Evaluating coursework for alignment with the academic standards
adopted by the state board of education.
(c) Performing reliability analysis of electronic systems delivering
coursework and assessments.
(d) Analysis and direction towards system improvements.
(e) Delivering monthly reports on the performance of the system and
directing any corrective steps required to achieve success.
2. A central delivery or supporting system with the ability to deliver
course work to fifty thousand students simultaneously at the highest
reliability level both at home and at school.
3. Mathematics instruction through a digital curriculum system with
coursework and assessments that are aligned with the academic standards
adopted by the state board of education. The assessments shall provide
formative and cumulative assessments aligned with the coursework, and shall
provide percentile rank, grade level and scale scores on the Arizona
instrument to measure standards test at the individual, classroom and school
level on a real-time basis. The scale score reports on the Arizona
instrument to measure standards test shall be on the same scale as the
passing scale score for a high school diploma in this state. The entity or
group of entities delivering the assessments shall be able to show that the
entity or group of entities are capable of delivering these assessments with
computer adaptive testing.
4. Lap-top technology to teachers and students involved in the pilot
program.
5. Teacher training and professional development coursework and
assessment. The teacher development and training shall be delivered by an
entity or group of entities that has experience providing teacher training
and professional development coursework and shall include both initial and
ongoing components. The coursework shall include strategies and techniques
to successfully integrate technological and digital resources into the daily
work of students.

G. After the department of education and the e-learning task force
have awarded a contract to the entity or group of entities that will
implement the e-learning pilot program, the department of education, in
cooperation with the e-learning task force, shall establish application
procedures and additional selection criteria for schools that wish to apply
for participation in the pilot program. The pilot program shall be conducted
at up to ten schools that provide instruction in any two grades consisting of
grade six, seven, eight or nine. Pupils in preschool programs, kindergarten
programs, grades one through five and grades ten, eleven and twelve are not
eligible to participate in the pilot program. These schools shall be able to
demonstrate that the teachers who will participate in the pilot program are
committed to the pilot program. The affected teachers shall complete the
initial training and professional development component of the pilot program
by the end of the fall semester of 2007.

H. In cooperation with the e-learning task force, the department of
education shall submit a report on or before November 15, 2010 to the
governor, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
representatives that summarizes the results of the pilot program. The
academic effectiveness of pupils in the pilot program shall be measured
according to the existing assessment mechanisms prescribed in title 15,
Arizona Revised Statutes. The department of education shall provide a copy
of this report to the secretary of state and the director of the Arizona
state library, archives and public records.

I. Schools and pupils that participate in the technology assisted
project-based instruction program established pursuant to section 15-808,
Arizona Revised Statutes, are not eligible for participation in the pilot
program.

Sec. 4. E-learning fund

The e-learning fund is established consisting of monies appropriated by
the legislature and monies received from any other public and private
sources. The department of education shall administer the fund, subject to
the direction of the e-learning task force.

Sec. 5. Delayed repeal

Sections 4 and 5 of this act, relating to the e-learning pilot program
and the e-learning fund, are repealed from and after August 31, 2011.

Sec. 6. Appropriation; department of education; e-learning
pilot program; exemption

A. The sum of $3,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund
to the department of education in fiscal year 2006-2007 to carry out the
e-learning pilot program established by this act. The department of
education may distribute the monies appropriated in this section in fiscal

B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to
lapses of appropriations.

C. The department of education may retain up to five per cent of the
monies appropriated pursuant to subsection A of this section for
administrative costs of the department in connection with the e-learning
pilot program, to provide technical assistance to schools that participate in
the pilot program.