

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 1002

Short Title: School Tech. Commission Created.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Winner of Mecklenburg, Conder, Perdue, and Ward.

Referred to: Rules Suspended, Passed 1st; referred to Select Committee on Bonds.

April 28, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT CREATING THE COMMISSION ON TECHNOLOGY IN THE PUBLIC
SCHOOLS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. (a) There is created the Commission on School Technology. The Commission shall be located administratively in the Department of Public Education but shall exercise all its prescribed statutory powers independently of the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction.

(b) The Commission shall consist of the following 21 members:

- (1) The Governor or a designee;
- (2) One teacher, one school administrator, one member of a local board of education, and one representative of business or industry, appointed by the Governor;
- (3) One teacher, one local board of education member, one representative of business or industry, and three members of the Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
- (4) One teacher, one school administrator, one parent of a child attending a public school, and three members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (5) The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or a designee;
- (6) One representative of The University of North Carolina, appointed by the President of The University of North Carolina;

- 1 (7) One representative of the North Carolina Community College System,
2 appointed by the President of the North Carolina Community College
3 System; and
4 (8) The chairman of the Information Resources Management Commission,
5 or a designee.

6 No producers or vendors of learning technologies shall serve on the Commission.

7 Vacancies in appointments shall be filled by the appointing officer. Persons
8 appointed to fill vacancies shall qualify in the same manner as persons appointed for full
9 terms.

10 The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one member of the
11 Senate serving on the Commission to serve as cochair. The Speaker of the House of
12 Representatives shall designate one member of the House serving on the Commission to
13 serve as cochair.

14 (c) The Commission shall prepare a requirements analysis and propose a plan to
15 the General Assembly for improving student performance in the public schools through
16 the use of learning technologies. In developing this plan, the Commission shall:

- 17 (1) Assess factors related to the current use of learning technologies in the
18 schools including what is currently being used, how the current use of
19 technology relates to the standard course of study, how the
20 effectiveness of learning technologies is being evaluated, how schools
21 are paying for learning technologies, and what training school
22 employees have received in the use of learning technology.
23 (2) Identify the instructional goals that can be met through the use of
24 learning technologies. The goals may include teaching the standard
25 course of study, reaching students with a broad range of abilities, and
26 ensuring that all students have access to a complete curriculum
27 regardless of the geographical location or the financial resources of the
28 school.
29 (3) Examine the types of learning technologies available to meet the
30 identified instructional goals including computers, audio-visual aids,
31 science laboratory equipment, vocational education equipment, and
32 distance learning networks. The Commission shall consider the
33 compatibility and accessibility of different types of learning
34 technologies and whether they may be easily communicated from one
35 site to another.
36 (4) Consider the types of staff development necessary to maximize the
37 benefits of learning technologies and determine the appropriate ways
38 to provide the necessary staff development.
39 (5) Consider staffing required to operate the learning technologies and
40 options for maintaining the equipment.
41 (6) Develop a funding plan that will pay for an initial investment in
42 learning technologies and ensure that funds are available for newly
43 developing technologies.

1 The Commission shall report the plan it develops to the General Assembly prior to May
2 1, 1994.

3 (d) Members of the Commission who are not State officers or employees shall
4 receive per diem and necessary travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with G.S.
5 138-5. Members who are State officers or employees shall be reimbursed for travel and
6 subsistence in accordance with G.S. 138-6.

7 (e) The Department of Public Instruction shall provide requested professional
8 and clerical staff to the Commission. The Commission may also employ professional
9 and clerical staff and may hire outside consultants to assist it in its work. The
10 Commission may use an outside consultant to perform a requirements analysis for
11 learning technologies on a statewide basis that is based on information gathered from
12 each local school administrative unit and that considers the needs of teachers, students,
13 and administrators.

14 (f) The Commission shall expire when it makes a final report to the General
15 Assembly.

16 Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
17 Public Education, Commission on School Technology, the sum of three hundred
18 thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the 1993-94 fiscal year to implement the provisions of
19 Section 1 of this act.

20 Sec. 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.