
By: **Senator Conway**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2006

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Educational Technology Pilot Program - Elementary Schools**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Educational Technology Pilot Program to be
4 implemented in the elementary schools of certain local jurisdictions in the State;
5 requiring the State Superintendent of Schools to award a grant to certain
6 organizations for implementation of the pilot program; providing for the purpose
7 of the pilot program; requiring the State Superintendent and certain
8 organizations to develop a plan to implement the pilot program; requiring the
9 plan to meet certain requirements; providing for the funding of the pilot
10 program; requiring certain boards of education to submit a certain report on or
11 before a certain date including certain information; defining certain terms; and
12 generally relating to the Educational Technology Pilot Program.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Education
15 Section 7-904 and 7-905
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

18 BY adding to
19 Article - Education
20 Section 7-10A-01 through 7-10A-08, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle
21 "Subtitle 10A. Educational Technology Pilot Program"
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

24 **Preamble**

25 WHEREAS, With today's wireless and notebook technologies, it is possible for
26 students to work together on a network with Internet access from every desk in every
27 classroom, not just in the computer lab; and

1 WHEREAS, The best time to introduce students to computer technology is in
2 elementary school, so that their acquaintance with how computers operate can form a
3 solid foundation for their future needs; and

4 WHEREAS, Just providing technological hardware to schools is not sufficient to
5 ensure the integration of computers into the lessons taught in the classroom, teachers
6 must be trained in order to achieve technological integration with their curriculum;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Maryland has the opportunity to create a pilot program within
9 designated elementary schools, in certain areas of the State, designed to introduce
10 students to computer technology and train teachers to integrate such technology into
11 their curriculum; and

12 WHEREAS, A computer technology pilot program will add to the increased
13 performance of the State's elementary school students participating in the program
14 and provide performance indicators that illustrate how teachers' familiarity with
15 technology and teaching resources within the program have increased; now, therefore,

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article - Education**

19 7-904.

20 (A) The State Superintendent may:

21 (1) Procure and develop curriculum-based learning resources using
22 state-of-the-art technologies and techniques designed to increase the achievement
23 levels of all students in all subject areas;

24 (2) Procure and develop long-term comprehensive instructional
25 programming and associated support resources that ensure maximum access by all
26 educational institutions;

27 (3) Develop standards for teachers and other school system employees
28 for the offering of courses or services on the Internet or through other developing
29 technologies;

30 (4) Review courses and courseware to assure quality and alignment with
31 the Maryland content standards and other appropriate standards;

32 (5) Track and issue periodic reports on the type and frequency of courses
33 or services utilized by teachers and other professionals under this section; and

34 (6) Award grants to eligible private or public consortia to enable eligible
35 consortia to develop state-of-the-art technology-enhanced instructional products,
36 resources, and services for use in the classroom, including:

1 (i) The development, production, and distribution of instructional
2 programming for students;

3 (ii) Staff development programming for teachers; and

4 (iii) Incorporation of creative state-of-the-art applications of
5 technology-enhanced learning resources, such as:

- 6 1. Computer software;
- 7 2. Databases;
- 8 3. Films;
- 9 4. Transparencies;
- 10 5. Multimedia video and audio discs;
- 11 6. Telecommunications;
- 12 7. Educational television;
- 13 8. Print resources; and
- 14 9. Web-based resources and courses.

15 (B) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBTITLE 10A OF THIS TITLE, THE STATE
16 SUPERINTENDENT SHALL AWARD A GRANT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A PILOT
17 PROGRAM TO INTRODUCE ELEMENTARY AGE STUDENTS TO COMPUTER
18 TECHNOLOGY AND TRAIN TEACHERS TO INTEGRATE THAT TECHNOLOGY INTO THEIR
19 CURRICULUM.

20 7-905.

21 In awarding grants under [§ 7-904] § 7-904(A) of this subtitle, the State
22 Superintendent shall give priority to applications describing programs or systems
23 that are developed:

- 24 (1) For statewide application at a reasonable cost;
- 25 (2) In consultation with classroom teachers; and
- 26 (3) Through consultation and collaboration with appropriate educational
27 entities to ensure relevance to State content standards and to other appropriate State
28 standards.

SUBTITLE 10A. EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAM.

7-10A-01.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAM.

(C) "PROGRAM PROVIDER" MEANS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT, AS DETERMINED BY THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT:

(1) EXCLUSIVELY FOCUSES ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR OTHER NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND SCHOOLS;

(2) HAS DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE IN PROVIDING A RANGE OF ASSISTANCE TO NONPROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND SCHOOLS INCLUDING:

(I) ASSESSING PERFORMANCE AND THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY;

(II) DEVELOPING RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE AND THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY; AND

(III) IMPLEMENTING THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS;

(3) HAS DEMONSTRATED THE ABILITY TO IDENTIFY AREAS FOR PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT RELATED TO THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN CLASSROOMS AND BY ADMINISTRATORS;

(4) HAS DEMONSTRATED THE ABILITY TO DEVELOP AN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS;

(5) HAS DEMONSTRATED THE ABILITY TO ASSIST WITH AND PROVIDE ON-SITE, HANDS-ON GUIDANCE WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS; AND

(6) HAS DEMONSTRATED THE ABILITY TO CREATE AN ON-LINE COMMUNITY THAT ALLOWS TEACHERS, PARENTS, POLICYMAKERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS TO COMMUNICATE AND PROVIDE SUPPORT DURING AND FOLLOWING THE ASSESSMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS.

7-10A-02.

THERE IS AN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

1 7-10A-03.

2 THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO INTRODUCE ELEMENTARY AGE
3 STUDENTS TO COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND TRAIN TEACHERS TO INTEGRATE SUCH
4 TECHNOLOGY INTO THEIR CURRICULUM.

5 7-10A-04.

6 IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-10A-05 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE STATE
7 SUPERINTENDENT AND PROGRAM PROVIDERS, CHOSEN BY THE STATE
8 SUPERINTENDENT, SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM IN
9 TWO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL SYSTEMS:

- 10 (1) BALTIMORE CITY;
- 11 (2) DORCHESTER COUNTY;
- 12 (3) PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY;
- 13 (4) SOMERSET COUNTY; AND
- 14 (5) ST. MARY'S COUNTY.

15 7-10A-05.

16 THE PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL:

- 17 (1) PROVIDE A USEFUL EDUCATIONAL MEDIUM FOR STUDENTS IN THE
18 PILOT PROGRAM;
- 19 (2) BE CAPABLE OF BEING IMPLEMENTED AT A REASONABLE COST;
- 20 (3) ENCOURAGE AND DEVELOP STUDENTS' FAMILIARITY WITH
21 COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND TRAIN TEACHERS TO INTEGRATE SUCH TECHNOLOGY
22 INTO THEIR CURRICULUM;
- 23 (4) ADD TO THE INCREASED PERFORMANCE OF THE STUDENTS
24 PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM; AND
- 25 (5) PROVIDE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS THAT ILLUSTRATE HOW
26 TEACHERS' FAMILIARITY WITH TECHNOLOGY AND TEACHING RESOURCES WITHIN
27 THE PILOT PROGRAM HAVE INCREASED.

28 7-10A-06.

29 ON APPROVAL OF THE PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM INTO A
30 SCHOOL SYSTEM, THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL PROVIDE A GRANT TO THE
31 COUNTY BOARD OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM IN WHICH THE PILOT PROGRAM WILL BE
32 IMPLEMENTED.

1 7-10A-07.

2 BEGINNING WITH THE FISCAL YEAR 2008 BUDGET, THE GOVERNOR SHALL
3 INCLUDE FUNDS IN THE BUDGET FOR THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT TO CARRY OUT
4 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

5 7-10A-08.

6 IN THE COUNTIES IN WHICH THE PILOT PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED, EACH
7 COUNTY BOARD SHALL ISSUE A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF, AND THE BENEFITS
8 ACCRUED FROM, THE PILOT PROGRAM, TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE
9 WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
10 WITHIN 2 YEARS FROM THE DATE THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT AWARDS A GRANT
11 TO THE COUNTY BOARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2006.