



January 26, 2023

HOUSE BILL No. 1358

DIGEST OF HB 1358 (Updated January 25, 2023 1:24 pm - DI 140)

Citations Affected: IC 20-20; noncode.

Synopsis: Digital literacy pilot program. Establishes the digital literacy pilot program (pilot program) and fund. Provides that the department of education (department) shall administer the pilot program. Provides that the department may approve: (1) one or more program providers to participate in the pilot program; and (2) a school corporation or charter school to participate in the program; if the school corporation, charter school, and program provider meet certain requirements. Appropriates \$500,000 to the digital literacy pilot program fund for each of the following: (1) 2024 state fiscal year. (2) 2025 state fiscal year. (3) 2026 state fiscal year.

Effective: July 1, 2023.

Davis, Teshka, McGuire, Goodrich

January 17, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.
January 26, 2023, reported — Do Pass. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means pursuant to Rule 127.

HB 1358—LS 6658/DI 110



January 26, 2023

First Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2023)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1358

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education and to make an appropriation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-20-47 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2023]:

4 **Chapter 47. Digital Literacy Pilot Program**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the digital**
6 **literacy pilot program fund established by section 5 of this chapter.**

7 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "pilot program" refers to the**
8 **digital literacy pilot program established by section 4 of this**
9 **chapter.**

10 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "program provider" means an**
11 **entity that provides a digital literacy program to students in**
12 **kindergarten through grade 8.**

13 **Sec. 4. (a) There is established a digital literacy pilot program.**

14 **(b) The department shall administer the program.**

15 **(c) The department may contract with one (1) or more entities**
16 **to manage the pilot program.**

17 **Sec. 5. (a) The digital literacy pilot program fund is established**

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1 for the purpose of providing funds to approved program providers
 2 for the development and implementation of digital literacy
 3 programs and teacher training described in section 7(c) of this
 4 chapter.

5 (b) The fund consists of the following:

6 (1) Appropriations by the general assembly.

7 (2) Interest deposited in the fund under subsection (e).

8 (3) Gifts, grants, devises, or bequests made to the department
 9 to achieve the purposes of the fund.

10 (c) The department shall administer the fund.

11 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
 12 money in the fund.

13 (e) The treasurer of the state shall invest the money in the fund
 14 not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
 15 manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that
 16 accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

17 (f) Money in the fund is continuously appropriated for the
 18 purposes of this chapter.

19 (g) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year shall
 20 revert to the state general fund.

21 Sec. 6. (a) To participate in the pilot program, a school
 22 corporation or charter school must:

23 (1) apply to the department in the manner and on a form
 24 prescribed by the department; and

25 (2) meet any requirements established by the department.

26 (b) The department may approve a school corporation or
 27 charter school to participate in the pilot program if the school
 28 corporation or charter school meets the requirements under
 29 subsection (a).

30 Sec. 7. (a) The department may approve one (1) or more
 31 program providers to participate in the pilot program.

32 (b) To receive approval to participate in the pilot program, a
 33 program provider shall apply to the department in the manner and
 34 on a form prescribed by the department.

35 (c) The department may approve a program provider to
 36 participate in the pilot program if the program provider meets the
 37 following:

38 (1) The program provider is able to make digital literacy
 39 curriculum available for school corporations and charter
 40 schools for the following school years:

41 (A) 2023-2024.

42 (B) 2024-2025.



- 1 **(C) 2025-2026.**
 2 **(2) The digital literacy program provided by the program**
 3 **provider:**
 4 **(A) focuses on ensuring students have the ability to safely**
 5 **use, understand, communicate, and create with technology,**
 6 **media, and digital resources by:**
 7 **(i) assessing student digital literacy skill levels; and**
 8 **(ii) providing teachers with a digital curriculum that**
 9 **targets areas in which students need improvement, as**
 10 **determined from assessing the students as described in**
 11 **item (i);**
 12 **(B) allows students to engage with the digital curriculum**
 13 **in an independent or teacher facilitated modality; and**
 14 **(C) includes training and professional development for**
 15 **teachers regarding digital literacy.**
 16 **(3) The program provider provides a manager and**
 17 **administrator to provide resources to school corporations and**
 18 **charter schools participating in the pilot program and the**
 19 **department as agreed upon by the:**
 20 **(A) applicable school corporation or charter school;**
 21 **(B) department; and**
 22 **(C) program provider.**
 23 **(4) The program provider is able to implement a digital**
 24 **literacy program in at least one hundred (100) schools that**
 25 **provide instruction to students:**
 26 **(A) enrolled in any combination of kindergarten through**
 27 **grade 8; and**
 28 **(B) who represent a diverse geography and socioeconomic**
 29 **demographic.**
 30 **(5) The program provider:**
 31 **(A) demonstrates experience in the assessment of digital**
 32 **literacy and the preparation of digital literacy skills,**
 33 **including experience in:**
 34 **(i) computational thinking;**
 35 **(ii) computer fundamentals;**
 36 **(iii) keyboarding;**
 37 **(iv) online safety and digital citizenship;**
 38 **(v) Internet usage and online communication;**
 39 **(vi) visual mapping;**
 40 **(vii) multimedia; and**
 41 **(viii) word processing, spreadsheets, data bases, and**
 42 **presentations; and**



1 (B) has demonstrable experience in providing digital
2 literacy solutions by serving:

3 (i) school corporations;

4 (ii) charter schools; or

5 (iii) both school corporations and charter schools;

6 in Indiana and other school districts or schools in at least
7 ten (10) other states.

8 (d) A program provider that is approved to participate in the
9 pilot program must provide a digital literacy program to
10 applicable school corporations and charter schools as required by
11 the department.

12 (e) The department shall establish reasonable fees for program
13 providers that participate in the pilot program. The department
14 shall pay any fees directly to a program provider for participation
15 in the pilot program.

16 Sec. 8. (a) Not later than June 1, 2024, and not later than June
17 1 each year thereafter, each program provider that participates in
18 the pilot program shall prepare and submit a report to the
19 department that includes:

20 (1) information regarding the efficacy of the digital literacy
21 program provided by the program provider; and

22 (2) any other information requested by the department.

23 (b) Not later than July 15, 2024, and not later than July 15 each
24 year thereafter, the department shall:

25 (1) compile the information the department receives under
26 subsection (a) into a report;

27 (2) submit the report described in subdivision (1) in an
28 electronic format under IC 5-14-6 to the following:

29 (A) The legislative council.

30 (B) The interim study committee on education established
31 by IC 2-5-1.3-4.

32 Sec. 9. The state board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
33 necessary to implement this chapter.

34 Sec. 10. This chapter expires July 15, 2026.

35 SECTION 2. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023] (a) As used in this
36 SECTION, "fund" means the digital literacy pilot program fund
37 established by IC 20-20-47-5, as added by this act.

38 (b) As used in this SECTION, "pilot program" means the digital
39 literacy pilot program established by IC 20-20-47-4, as added by
40 this act.

41 (c) There is appropriated to the fund from the state general fund
42 for the purposes of the pilot program the following:



- 1 **(1) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the state**
- 2 **fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.**
- 3 **(2) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the state**
- 4 **fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.**
- 5 **(3) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the state**
- 6 **fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.**
- 7 **(d) This SECTION expires July 15, 2026.**



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Education, to which was referred House Bill 1358, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1358 as introduced.)

BEHNING

Committee Vote: Yeas 13, Nays 0

