

HOUSE BILL No. 2527

By Committee on Energy and Utilities

1-25

1 AN ACT concerning the Kan-ed act; relating to the board, authority to
2 charge fees; amending K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 75-7224 and repealing the
3 existing section.
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5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 75-7224 is hereby amended to read as
7 follows: 75-7224. (a) The board shall establish a plan to ensure that all
8 schools, libraries and hospitals have quality, affordable access to the
9 internet and distance learning. The board shall adopt standards for
10 determining whether such access is available to each school, library or
11 hospital desiring such access and shall adopt priorities for implementation
12 of such access. The board may request and receive assistance from any
13 school, any library, any hospital, the state corporation commission, any
14 other agency of the state or any telecommunications, cable or other
15 communications services provider to gather necessary data to implement
16 such plan and establish such standards and priorities. The board shall
17 develop a methodology for updating and validating any data collected for
18 periodic revisions of the plan, standards and priorities. Not less than 75%
19 of all schools which have applied to the board to participate in the
20 network, 75% of all libraries which have applied to the board to participate
21 in the network and 75% of all hospitals which have applied to the board to
22 participate in the network shall have access to the network by July 1, 2004.

23 (b) The board shall contract with providers of telecommunications
24 services, cable services and other communications services for the
25 creation, operation and maintenance of the network. Such contracts shall
26 be let by competitive bids as provided by K.S.A. 75-3739, and
27 amendments thereto.

28 (c) The board shall establish: (1) Technical standards for operation
29 and maintenance of the network; (2) the method of monitoring operations
30 of the network; and (3) the method or methods of increasing the capacity
31 of the network to accommodate changes in the demands of schools,
32 libraries and hospitals.

33 (d) The board shall identify any potential regulatory impediments to
34 and other regulatory considerations in implementation of the network and
35 shall propose measures to address such impediments and other
36 considerations.

1 (e) The board shall assess the need of schools, libraries and hospitals
2 for full-motion video connectivity. Based on its findings, the board may
3 develop a plan to provide such connectivity. The plan may require users of
4 such connectivity *to bear part of its cost through user fees or any other*
5 *cost share system approved by the board.*

6 (f) The board may appoint such advisory committees as the board
7 determines necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. The membership
8 of advisory committees may include both members of the board and
9 persons who are not board members. Such advisory committees, to the
10 extent appropriate, shall include both communications services providers
11 and participants knowledgeable about topics such as network facilities and
12 services, network content and user training, and such other topics as may
13 be necessary or useful. Members of advisory committees appointed by the
14 board shall receive amounts provided for in subsection (e) of K.S.A. 75-
15 3223, and amendments thereto.

16 (g) On or before July 1, 2002, and thereafter as the board deems
17 appropriate, the board shall adopt rules and regulations to implement and
18 administer the provisions of this act.

19 (h) The board shall have all other powers necessary to achieve the
20 purposes of this act, including but not limited to the power to receive any
21 appropriations, donations, grants, bequests and devises, conditional and
22 otherwise, of money, property, services or other things of value for the
23 purposes of this act.

24 (i) The state department of education, the division of information
25 systems and communications of the department of administration, the state
26 corporation commission and all other state agencies shall cooperate with
27 the board in providing information and other assistance requested by the
28 board for the performance of its duties pursuant to this act.

29 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 75-7224 is hereby repealed.

30 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
31 publication in the statute book.

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