

SENATE BILL 400

By Southerland

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to virtual education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 16, is amended by adding Sections 2 through 4 as a new part:

SECTION 2. Each center of regional excellence (CORE) established by the department of education shall collaborate with the LEAs that it serves to create a regional virtual school that shall serve students enrolled in the LEAs.

SECTION 3. The department shall establish an annual fee for participation in a regional virtual school to be paid by each LEA in its region. The annual fee shall be set at an amount that will fund the costs of starting and operating the virtual school.

SECTION 4. A student who enrolls part-time or full-time in a regional virtual school shall be enrolled in the LEA and counted for all accountability and funding purposes as a student enrolled full-time in the LEA school which the student would otherwise attend.

SECTION 5. The state board of education is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 6. For purposes of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.