
HOUSE BILL 2595

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Ortiz-Self, Ryu, Peterson, Robinson, McBride, Reykdal, Walkinshaw, Farrell, Kagi, Rossetti, and S. Hunt

Read first time 01/15/16. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to safe technology use and digital citizenship in
2 public schools; adding a new section to chapter 28A.650 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that as
6 technology becomes more prevalent, students must learn how to
7 thoughtfully, ethically, and responsibly use technology. The
8 legislature intends to provide a process in which students, parents
9 or guardians, teachers and other school employees, administrators,
10 volunteers, and community representatives will engage in an ongoing
11 discussion on safe technology use and digital citizenship.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.650
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) As used in this section, "digital citizenship" means the
15 norms of appropriate, responsible, and healthy behavior related to
16 current technology use, including digital and media literacy, ethics,
17 etiquette, and security. Digital citizenship includes the ability to
18 access, analyze, evaluate, and interpret media.

19 (2)(a) By August 1, 2016, the Washington state school directors'
20 association shall revise and distribute its model policy and

1 procedure on electronic resources and internet safety to all school
2 districts in the state.

3 (b) In revising its model policy and procedure, the Washington
4 state school directors' association, with the assistance of the
5 office of the superintendent of public instruction, shall convene and
6 consult with an advisory committee. The advisory committee must
7 include experts in digital citizenship and media literacy along with
8 other stakeholders, including parent associations, educators, and
9 administrators.

10 (c) The model policy and procedure must address safe technology
11 use and digital citizenship that empowers:

12 (i) A student to make smart media and online choices; and

13 (ii) A parent or guardian to know how to discuss safe technology
14 use with the parent's or guardian's child.

15 (3) Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, each school district
16 shall annually review and amend if necessary a policy and procedure
17 that at a minimum incorporates the revised model policy and procedure
18 provided under subsection (2) of this section. The policy and
19 procedure must be reviewed or amended through a process that includes
20 representation of students, parents or guardians, teachers and other
21 school employees, administrators, volunteers, and community
22 representatives.

23 (4) Each school district shall provide education that includes
24 awareness of safe technology use, digital citizenship, and digital
25 and media literacy.

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