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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6273**

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**State of Washington**

**64th Legislature**

**2016 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Liiias, Litzow, Rolfes, Fain, Mullet, Carlyle, Billig, Fraser, and McAuliffe)

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 safely,  
7 ethically, responsibly, and effectively use technology. The  
8 legislature intends to provide a process in which students, parents  
9 or guardians, teachers, teacher-librarians, other school employees,  
10 administrators, and community representatives will engage in an  
11 ongoing discussion on safe technology use and digital citizenship as  
12 part of implementing the state's basic education goal outlined in RCW  
13 28A.150.210(3).

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

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

1 (2)(a) By August 1, 2016, the office of the superintendent of  
2 public instruction shall develop and distribute best practices and  
3 recommendations for instruction on digital citizenship to school  
4 districts.

5 (b) To identify best practices and develop recommendations, the  
6 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall convene and  
7 consult with an advisory committee. The advisory committee must  
8 include experts in digital citizenship and media literacy,  
9 representatives from the Washington state school directors'  
10 association, and teacher-librarians as defined in RCW 28A.320.240,  
11 along with other stakeholders, including parent associations,  
12 educators, and administrators. Recommendations may include, but are  
13 not limited to, suggested revisions to the model policy and procedure  
14 on electronic resources and internet safety developed by the  
15 Washington state school directors' association, potential revisions  
16 to the state learning standards for educational technology, and a  
17 strategy for statewide implementation of the education described in  
18 subsection (4) of this section.

19 (c) Best practices and recommendations must address safe  
20 technology use and digital citizenship that empowers:

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

22 (ii) A parent or guardian to know how to discuss and support safe  
23 technology use with the parent's or guardian's child.

24 (3) Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, each school district  
25 shall annually review and amend if necessary a policy and procedure  
26 that at a minimum incorporates the model policy and procedure on  
27 electronic resources and internet safety developed by the Washington  
28 state school directors' association. The policy and procedure must be  
29 reviewed or amended through a process that includes representation of  
30 students, parents or guardians, teachers, teacher-librarians, other  
31 school employees, administrators, and community representatives with  
32 experience or expertise in digital citizenship issues.

33 (4) In identifying curriculum and instruction designed to meet  
34 the state's basic education goals, each school district shall provide  
35 education that instructs students in digital citizenship including  
36 how to be critical consumers and producers of information, and  
37 provides guidance about thoughtful, safe, and strategic use of online  
38 and other media resources.

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