

18A:6-103

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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"Educational Technology Training"

NJSA: 18A:6-103

LAWS OF: 1996 CHAPTER: 129

BILL NO: S1189

SPONSOR(S): DiFrancesco and Ciesla

DATE INTRODUCED: May 30, 1996

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: ---
SENATE: Education

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes Amendments during passage denoted
by superscript numbers

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: November 14, 1996
SENATE: November 7, 1996

DATE OF APPROVAL: November 20, 1996

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: Yes

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: Yes

HEARINGS: No

974.90 New Jersey. Education Technology Task Force.
E24 Technology and New Jersey's School in the 21st century
1996 providing an onramp to the information superhighway..., March 6,
1996, Trenton, 1996.

KBP:pp

[Second Reprint]
SENATE, No. 1189

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 30, 1996

By Senators DiFRANCESCO and CIESLA

1 AN ACT establishing an Educational Technology Teacher Training
2 Program in the Department of Education and supplementing
3 chapter 6 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7

8 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Educational
9 Technology Teacher Training Act."

10

11 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:

12 a. In order for all of New Jersey's students to acquire the critical
13 thinking and problem solving skills necessary to become productive
14 citizens in the next century, they will require access to the
15 opportunities provided by modern technology;

16 b. It is imperative that teachers understand the potential of
17 technology within the classroom to support curriculum goals and that
18 they become proficient and sophisticated users of those technologies
19 critical to educating New Jersey's students;

20 c. Many of this State's teachers ended their training before
21 technology was pervasive within teacher education programs and as
22 a result the most frequently mentioned issue in educational technology
23 has been the need for staff training;

24 d. The Education Technology Task Force, formed by the
25 Commission on Business Efficiency of the Public Schools to assist the
26 Legislature and Executive branch in formulating a statewide
27 educational technology policy, noted in its March, 1996 report,
28 Technology and New Jersey's Schools in the 21st Century, that some
29 school districts have exemplary technology programs and also have
30 developed exemplary staff training programs;

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Senate SED committee amendments adopted June 20, 1996.

² Senate SBA committee amendments adopted October 28, 1996.

1 e. The task force also recommended that in order to provide access
2 to technology to teachers in the most efficient manner possible, the
3 State should build upon this expertise by providing grants to school
4 districts with proven histories of success in applying technology to
5 education so that these school districts may share that knowledge with
6 other districts through training programs specifically developed for
7 that purpose; and

8 f. The New Jersey Department of Education has repeatedly
9 stressed the importance of technology training for educational
10 personnel and in fact in its April, 1993 report, Educational Technology
11 in New Jersey: A Plan for Action, emphasized the critical need for
12 strategies that will provide and support effective staff development
13 models in this regard .

14
15 3. The Commissioner of Education shall develop and administer an
16 Educational Technology Teacher Training Program. The purpose of
17 the program shall be to provide grants to local school districts which
18 have successfully integrated technology within their own educational
19 programs to develop and offer educational technology training
20 programs to the teachers and staff of other school districts ²and to the
21 teachers and staff of non-public schools². The grants shall be
22 allocated to school districts on a competitive basis and the
23 commissioner may, if he deems appropriate, award grants to other
24 appropriate applicants which he feels have the potential to develop and
25 offer high quality educational technology training programs to school
26 staff ², including the staff of non-public schools².

27
28 4. a. There is established within the Department of Education a
29 fund to be known as the "Educational Technology Teacher Training
30 Fund," hereinafter referred to as the "fund." The fund shall be used to
31 provide grants to school districts or other applicants as approved by
32 the commissioner to develop and administer educational technology
33 training programs for school district staff. The grants shall be
34 provided for a three year period after which the technology training
35 program shall be supported on a fee-for-service basis, through private
36 sector-school district partnership funding, or both. During the initial
37 three year period, the grant funding shall be supplemented on a fee-
38 for-service basis to offset costs which may exceed the grant amount.

39 b. The fund shall annually be credited with money appropriated by
40 the Legislature, any moneys received from corporate donors or other
41 private sector support, and any federal funds which may become
42 available for teacher technology training.

43 c. Grants provided from the fund shall be used for the development
44 of accessible training sites; costs associated with educational
45 technology training personnel; the acquisition of equipment necessary
46 for technological training including hardware and software;

1 subscription fees for telecommunications and data base services; and
2 any other purpose approved by the commissioner.

3

4 5. a. Within 90 days of the effective date of this act, the
5 commissioner shall forward a request for proposals for the
6 establishment of educational technology teacher training programs to
7 local school districts and other appropriate applicants. A local school
8 district or other applicant which wants to participate in the program
9 shall submit a proposal to the commissioner which outlines the
10 district's or applicant's plan to offer educational technology training to
11 teachers and other school staff. The proposal shall include information
12 which outlines the manner in which the technology training program
13 shall become self-supporting at the end of the three-year grant period
14 through a fee-for-service arrangement, private sector support, or some
15 other mechanism as developed by the grant recipient. The proposal
16 shall also include any other information which the commissioner may
17 require.

18 b. The commissioner shall select grant recipients based on the
19 quality of the proposed educational technology teacher training
20 program. In selecting grant recipients, the commissioner shall
21 consider the leadership and experience of the grant applicant in the
22 effective use of educational technology within the classroom; the
23 location of the proposed training site ¹and the number of potential
24 school staff trainees which have convenient access to the site¹; and
25 the potential for the training program to operate independently of
26 grant funds at the end of the three-year period.

27 c. The commissioner shall award grants to support ¹~~22~~ at least
28 21¹ teacher training sites in the amount of \$200,000 per site. ¹~~Each~~
29 site selected shall be capable of providing training to the teachers and
30 other staff of 100 school buildings which are geographically accessible
31 to the training site.¹ The commissioner shall provide for a phase-in
32 of training sites over the three-year period with ¹~~eight~~ at least
33 seven¹ sites established in the first year of the program, seven sites in
34 the second year, and seven sites in the third year. In establishing a
35 schedule for the phase-in of training sites, the commissioner shall
36 ensure that there is an equitable distribution of sites in terms of their
37 geographic location ¹providing at a minimum for the establishment of
38 one training site per county.

39 d. Each training site shall include:

40 (1) program offerings providing basic technology skills;

41 (2) program offerings related to word processing, data bases,
42 spreadsheets, and design;

43 (3) a minimum of three educational multimedia program offerings;

44 (4) a minimum of two telecommunications program offerings; and

45 (5) program offerings which provide instruction on implementing

1 teaching strategies that support the integration of technology in the
2 classroom¹.

3
4 6. The commissioner shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of
5 the teacher training programs being operated by grant recipients.
6 Three years following the effective date of this act, the commissioner
7 shall ¹**[submit] report**¹ to the Governor and the Legislature ¹**[an**
8 **evaluation] on the progress**¹ of the Educational Technology Teacher
9 Training Program ¹**[and its effectiveness in upgrading the**
10 **technological skills of teachers and other school district staff. The**
11 **evaluation shall include a recommendation on the advisability and**
12 **necessity of continuing the grant program]**¹.

13
14 7. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the
15 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
16 seq.), the rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions
17 of this act.

18
19 8. This act shall take effect immediately.

20

21

22

23

24 Establishes the "Educational Technology Teacher Training Program."

STATEMENT

1
2
3 This bill establishes an Educational Technology Teacher Training
4 Program in the Department of Education to train teachers to
5 effectively use educational technology. This bill implements a
6 recommendation of the Education Technology Task Force which was
7 formed by the Commission on Business Efficiency of the Public
8 Schools to assist the Legislature and Executive branch in formulating
9 a statewide educational technology policy.

10 The task force in its March, 1996 report, Technology and New
11 Jersey's Schools in the 21st Century, noted that all of New Jersey's
12 students need to acquire the critical thinking and problem solving skills
13 necessary to become productive citizens in the next century and that
14 this will require access to the opportunities provided by modern
15 technology. This report also recognized that many of this State's
16 teachers ended their training before technology was pervasive within
17 teacher education programs and that as a result the most frequently
18 mentioned issue in educational technology has been the need for staff
19 training.

20 The task force further found that some school districts already have
21 exemplary technology programs and also have developed exemplary
22 staff training programs. The task force recommended that in order to
23 provide access to technology to teachers in the most efficient manner
24 possible, the State should build upon this expertise by providing
25 grants to school districts with proven histories of success in applying
26 technology to education so that those school districts may share that
27 knowledge with other districts through training programs specifically
28 developed for that purpose.

29 The Educational Technology Teacher Training Program is to be
30 developed and administered by the Commissioner of Education. Under
31 the provisions of this bill the commissioner will forward a request for
32 proposals for the establishment of educational technology teacher
33 training programs to local school districts and other appropriate
34 applicants. A local school district or other applicant which wants to
35 participate in the program shall submit a proposal to the commissioner
36 which outlines the district's or applicant's plan to offer educational
37 technology training to teachers and other school staff. The proposal
38 shall include information which outlines the manner in which the
39 technology training program shall become self-supporting at the end
40 of a three year grant period through a fee-for-service arrangement,
41 private sector support, or some other mechanism as developed by the
42 grant recipient.

43 The technology training program will provide grants on a
44 competitive basis to local school districts which have successfully
45 integrated technology within their own educational programs, or other
46 appropriate applicants, to develop and offer educational technology

1 training programs to the teachers and staff of other school districts.
2 The commissioner shall select grant recipients based on the quality of
3 the proposed educational technology teacher training program
4 including: the leadership and experience of the grant applicant in the
5 effective use of educational technology within the classroom; the
6 location of the proposed training site and the number of potential
7 school staff trainees which have convenient access to the site; and the
8 potential for the training program to operate independently of grant
9 funds at the end of the three year period.

10 The commissioner is to award grants to support 22 teacher training
11 sites in the amount of \$200,000 per site. Each site selected must be
12 capable of providing training to the teachers and other staff of 100
13 school buildings. There is to be a phase-in of sites over the three year
14 period with eight sites established in the first year, seven in the second,
15 and seven in the third. In establishing the phase-in schedule, the
16 commissioner is to ensure that there is an equitable distribution of sites
17 in terms of geographic location.

18 This bill also establishes the Educational Technology Teacher
19 Training Fund. This fund shall be used to provide the grants to school
20 districts or other applicants as approved by the commissioner to
21 develop and administer educational technology training programs for
22 school district staff. The grants shall be provided for a three year
23 period after which the technology training program shall be supported
24 on a fee-for-service basis, through private sector-school district
25 partnership funding, or both. During the initial three year period, the
26 grant funding shall be supplemented on a fee-for-service basis to offset
27 costs which may exceed the grant amount.

28 The commissioner is to annually evaluate the effectiveness of the
29 teacher training programs being operated by grant recipients. Three
30 years following the bills' effective date, the commissioner is to submit
31 to the Governor and the Legislature an evaluation of the program and
32 its effectiveness in upgrading the technological skills of teachers and
33 other school district staff. The evaluation shall include a
34 recommendation on the advisability and necessity of continuing the
35 grant program.

36

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39

40 Establishes the "Educational Technology Teacher Training Program."

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1189

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 20, 1996

The Senate Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1189 with committee amendments.

As amended by committee, this bill establishes an Educational Technology Teacher Training Program in the Department of Education to train teachers to effectively use educational technology. The bill implements a recommendation of the Education Technology Task Force which was formed by the Commission on Business Efficiency of the Public Schools to assist the Legislature and Executive branch in formulating a Statewide educational technology policy. The recommendation was contained in the March, 1996 task force report, Technology and New Jersey's Schools in the 21st Century.

The Educational Technology Teacher Training Program is to be developed and administered by the Commissioner of Education. Under the bill's provisions, the commissioner is to forward a request for proposals for the establishment of educational technology teacher training programs to local school districts and other appropriate applicants. A local school district or other applicant which wants to participate in the program shall submit a proposal to the commissioner which outlines the district's or applicant's plan to offer educational technology training to teachers and other school staff. The proposal must include information which outlines the manner in which the technology training program will become self-supporting at the end of a three-year grant period through a fee-for-service arrangement, private sector support, or some other mechanism as developed by the grant recipient.

The technology training program will provide grants on a competitive basis to local school districts which have successfully integrated technology within their own educational programs, or other appropriate applicants, to develop and offer educational technology training programs to the teachers and staff of other school districts. The commissioner shall select grant recipients based on the quality of the proposed educational technology teacher training program including: the leadership and experience of the grant applicant in the effective use of educational technology within the classroom; the

location of the proposed training site; and the potential for the training program to operate independently of grant funds at the end of the three-year period.

The commissioner is to award grants to support at least 21 teacher training sites in the amount of \$200,000 per site. There is to be a phase-in of sites over the three-year period with at least seven sites established in the first year, seven in the second, and seven in the third. In establishing the phase-in schedule, the commissioner is to ensure that there is an equitable distribution of sites in terms of geographic location with at least one site established in each county.

Each training site shall include instruction on basic technology skills, and program offerings related to word processing, data bases, and spreadsheet design. In addition, the training sites shall include educational multimedia program offerings, telecommunications program offerings, and program offerings which provide instruction on implementing teaching strategies that support the integration of technology in the classroom.

This bill also establishes the Educational Technology Teacher Training Fund. This fund will be used to provide the grants to school districts or other applicants as approved by the commissioner to develop and administer educational technology training programs for school district staff. The grants shall be provided for a three-year period after which the technology training program shall be supported on a fee-for-service basis, through private sector-school district partnership funding, or both. During the initial three-year period, the grant funding shall be supplemented on a fee-for-service basis to offset costs which may exceed the grant amount.

The commissioner is to annually evaluate the effectiveness of the teacher training programs being operated by grant recipients. Three years following the bill's effective date, the commissioner is to report to the Governor and the Legislature on the progress of the program.

The committee amended the bill to revise the number of teacher training sites from 22 to at least 21, with at least seven established in the first year and one site allocated to each county. Amendments were also adopted to specify what each training site should include and to revise the commissioner's reporting requirement.

As amended, this bill is identical to A1864 (1R).

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1189

with Senate committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 28, 1996

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1189 (1R) with amendments.

As amended, Senate Bill No. 1189 (1R) establishes an Educational Technology Teacher Training Program in the Department of Education to train public and non-public school teachers and staff to effectively use educational technology.

The program is to be developed and administered by the Commissioner of Education. The commissioner will accept proposals for training programs from local school districts and other appropriate applicants. The proposals will include an outline on the manner in which the training program will become self-supporting at the end of a three-year grant period through a fee-for-service arrangement, private sector support, or some other mechanism as developed by the grant recipient.

The program will provide grants on a competitive basis to local school districts which have successfully integrated technology within their own educational programs, or other appropriate applicants, to develop and offer educational technology training programs to the teachers and staff of other school districts and staff of non-public schools.

The commissioner is to award grants for three year periods to support each of at least 21 teacher training sites in the amount of \$200,000 per site. There is to be a phase-in of sites over a three-year period with at least seven sites established in the first year, seven in the second, and seven in the third. In establishing the phase-in schedule, the commissioner is to ensure that there is an equitable distribution of sites in terms of geographic location with at least one site established in each county.

The grants may be used to develop accessible training sites; personnel costs; equipment acquisition; telecommunication subscription fees; and other items approved by the commissioner. The bill sets forth the minimum program requirements for each training site. The bill does not provide an appropriation.

As amended and reported, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1864 (2R) (Wolfe/Doria).

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended bill, with the approval of the sponsor, to make the technology training programs established pursuant to this bill accessible to non-public school teachers and staff.

FISCAL IMPACT:

In the legislative fiscal estimate prepared on this bill, the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates a first year cost of \$1.4 million based on establishing seven sites at \$200,000 each. The second year cost would be \$2.8 million for 14 sites; and \$4.2 million for 21 sites in the third year.

After the third year, the cost to the State would decrease with the first seven sites becoming self-supporting. Under the bill, the revenue generated by the fee-based services offered by the training centers supplement, not supplant, the State grant awards during the initial three year period. However, the OLS is not able to estimate the amount of revenue that would be generated by the training centers for offering various fee-based services. The Department of Education has indicated that it is exploring funding sources for the technology training program outlined by this bill, including federal funding.

Finally, the FY 1997 appropriations act provided \$500,000 for Educational Technology Training Grants. The department states that, under its own program, three competitive grants of \$125,000 (totaling \$375,000) to counties will be awarded; the remaining balance of the appropriation will be used for salaries and administrative costs associated with the program's operation at the departmental level. For FY 1997, the recipients of the grants are required to provide a 50 percent match from other sources.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE TO

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 1189

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 9, 1996

Senate Bill No. 1189 (1R) of 1996 establishes an Educational Technology Teacher Training Program in the Department of Education. The program is to be developed and administered by the Commissioner of Education. The purpose of the program is to provide grants to local school districts which have successfully integrated technology within their own educational programs to develop and offer educational technology training programs to the teachers and staff of other school districts. The grants are to be allocated on a competitive basis. The commissioner can also award grants to other applicants that exhibit the potential to develop and offer high quality educational technology training programs to school staff. Under the bill, an "Educational Technology Teacher Training Fund," is created to provide grants to school districts or other applicants. The grants shall be provided for a three year period after which the training programs are to be fee-for-service-supported. During the initial three year period the grants shall be supplemented on a fee-for-service-basis. Within 90 days of the effective date of the act, the commissioner shall forward a request for proposals from all interested parties which shall outline the applicant's plan and provide information about the ability of the program to become self-supporting at the end of the three year grant period. The bill provides that over the three year period, at least 21 teacher training sites shall be established to be phased in at seven sites per year until each county has at least one training site. The commissioner is to award \$200,000 per site. The bill requires the commissioner to annually evaluate the effectiveness of the program operated by the grant recipients. The bill also requires that three years following the effective date of the act, the commissioner shall report to the Governor and the Legislature on the progress of the training program.

The Office of Legislative Services estimates the cost of this bill at \$1,400,000 the first year following enactment. This is based on the cost to establish seven sites at \$200,000 each. During the second year costs are anticipated to increase to \$2,800,000 for 14 sites. The third year of the program, costs are estimated to increase to \$4,200,000 for 21 sites. After the third year, the cost to the State would decrease due to the three year grant award limit for the original seven sites. In the fourth year, the costs to the State would decline by \$1.4 million, the cost of the first seven sites, to \$2.8 million. In the succeeding years,

costs to the State would further decline as the remaining sites reached the end of the three year funding cycle. It is anticipated that the \$200,000 start-up costs for each site would pay for the salaries of personal to staff the training sites, purchase of equipment, the development of a repository for educational technology information and resources including computer software programs, and research and curriculum materials. In the event some sites have equipment, the grants could be used to supplement existing equipment and staffing. OLS notes that although the bill specifies an amount to be spent on each site, it lacks an appropriation. Under the bill, the revenue generated by the fee-based services offered by the training centers supplement, not supplant, the State grant awards during the initial three year period. However, OLS is not able to estimate the amount of revenue that would be generated by the training centers for offering various fee-based services. Furthermore, in FY 1997, funding of \$500,000 was appropriated for Educational Technology Training Grants for three competitive grants of \$125,000 totaling \$375,000 to counties throughout the State. The remaining balance is used to pay for the salaries and other administrative costs associated with the program's operation at the departmental level. For FY 1997, the recipients of the grants are required to provide a 50 percent match from other sources.

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.