

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 2178

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment by the commissioner of education of a computer lending pilot program for public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 32, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. COMPUTER LENDING PILOT PROGRAM

Sec. 32.351. ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM. The commissioner by rule shall establish a computer lending pilot program to provide computers to participating public schools that make computers available for use by members of the local community.

Sec. 32.352. PILOT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION. The commissioner shall establish procedures for the administration of the pilot program, including procedures for distributing to participating public schools:

(1) any surplus or salvage data processing equipment available for distribution under the pilot program; or

(2) computers donated or purchased for that purpose with funds from any available source, including a foundation, private entity, governmental entity, and institution of higher education.

Sec. 32.353. ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS. A public school is eligible to participate in the pilot program if:

(1) 50 percent or more of the students enrolled in the

1 school are educationally disadvantaged; and

2 (2) the school operates or agrees to operate a  
3 computer lending program that:

4 (A) allows students, parents, and other area  
5 residents to borrow a computer;

6 (B) includes an option for students, parents, and  
7 other area residents to work toward owning a computer initially  
8 borrowed under the school's lending program, subject to any  
9 applicable legal restrictions regarding disposition of the  
10 computer involved;

11 (C) provides computer training for students,  
12 parents, and other area residents; and

13 (D) operates outside regular school hours,  
14 including operation until at least 7 p.m. on at least three days  
15 each week.

16 Sec. 32.354. ANNUAL REPORT. Not later than January 1 of each  
17 year, the commissioner shall submit a report to the legislature  
18 regarding the computer lending pilot program established under this  
19 subchapter.

20 Sec. 32.355. EXPIRATION. This subchapter expires September  
21 1, 2014.

22 SECTION 2. Section 2175.128, Government Code, is amended by  
23 adding Subsections (a-1) and (b-1) to read as follows:

24 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), if a disposition of a  
25 state agency's surplus or salvage data processing equipment is not  
26 made under Section 2175.125 or 2175.184, the state agency shall  
27 make the equipment available to the commissioner of education for

1 use in the computer lending pilot program established under  
2 Subchapter H, Chapter 32, Education Code. If the commissioner of  
3 education declines to take the equipment, the state agency shall  
4 transfer the equipment in accordance with Subsection (a). The  
5 state agency may not collect a fee or other reimbursement from the  
6 commissioner of education for the equipment made available under  
7 this subsection. This subsection expires September 1, 2014.

8 (b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), if a disposition of  
9 the surplus or salvage data processing equipment of a state  
10 eleemosynary institution or an institution or agency of higher  
11 education is not made under other law, the institution or agency  
12 shall make the equipment available to the commissioner of education  
13 for use in the computer lending pilot program established under  
14 Subchapter H, Chapter 32, Education Code. If the commissioner of  
15 education declines to take the equipment, the institution or agency  
16 shall transfer the equipment in accordance with Subsection (b).  
17 The state eleemosynary institution or institution or agency of  
18 higher education may not collect a fee or other reimbursement from  
19 the commissioner of education for the equipment made available  
20 under this subsection. This subsection expires September 1, 2014.

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.