

By: Sanford, Talarico

H.B. No. 4186

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a committee to recommend a framework to incorporate digital teaching and learning in public schools.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 39, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter O to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER O. NEXT GENERATION COMMISSION ON DIGITAL LEARNING

Sec. 39.601. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "commission" means the Next Generation Commission on Digital Learning.

Sec. 39.602. NEXT GENERATION COMMISSION ON DIGITAL LEARNING. (a) The Next Generation Commission on Digital Learning is established to develop and make recommendations for establishing a framework for the incorporation of digital teaching and learning in public schools.

(b) The commission is composed of 15 members, consisting of the following:

(1) four members appointed by the governor;

(2) three members appointed by the lieutenant governor;

(3) three members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(4) a representative designated by the chair of the senate committee on education;

(5) a representative designated by the chair of the

1 senate committee on higher education;

2 (6) a representative designated by the chair of the  
3 house of representatives public education committee;

4 (7) a representative designated by the chair of the  
5 house of representatives committee on higher education; and

6 (8) a member of the State Board of Education, as  
7 designated by the chair of that board.

8 (c) In making appointments under Subsections (b)(1), (2),  
9 and (3), the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the  
10 house of representatives shall coordinate to ensure that the  
11 commission includes at least one of each of the following  
12 representatives:

13 (1) a parent of or person standing in parental  
14 relation to a student enrolled in the public school system;

15 (2) an educator in the public school system;

16 (3) an educator in a school district that is a  
17 participant in the Texas High Performance Schools Consortium under  
18 Section 7.0561;

19 (4) a member of the business community;

20 (5) a member of the civic community;

21 (6) a leader in digital teaching and learning; and

22 (7) a leader in researching the impact of digital  
23 teaching and learning on student performance.

24 Sec. 39.603. PRESIDING OFFICER. The governor shall  
25 designate the presiding officer of the commission.

26 Sec. 39.604. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT. A member of  
27 the commission is not entitled to compensation for service on the

1 commission but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and  
2 necessary expenses incurred in performing commission duties.

3 Sec. 39.605. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FUNDING.

4 (a) Staff members of the agency shall provide administrative  
5 support for the commission.

6 (b) Funding for the administrative and operational expenses  
7 of the commission shall be provided by appropriation to the agency  
8 for that purpose.

9 Sec. 39.606. RECOMMENDATIONS. The commission shall develop  
10 recommendations under this subchapter to:

11 (1) provide a funding proposal to present to the  
12 legislature for digital teaching and learning in elementary and  
13 secondary schools that includes funding to:

14 (A) improve student outcomes through the use of  
15 digital teaching and learning technology; and

16 (B) provide high-quality professional learning  
17 for educators to improve student outcomes through the use of  
18 digital teaching and learning technology;

19 (2) develop a framework for effective statewide  
20 deployment of digital teaching and learning materials in elementary  
21 and secondary schools; and

22 (3) develop and implement strategies that assist  
23 school districts in the adoption and implementation of digital  
24 teaching and learning materials.

25 Sec. 39.607. REPORT. Not later than September 1, 2020, the  
26 commission shall prepare and deliver a report to the governor and  
27 the legislature that recommends statutory changes to develop a

1 framework to incorporate digital teaching and learning in public  
2 schools.

3 Sec. 39.608. PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION. (a)  
4 The commission may hold public meetings as needed to fulfill its  
5 duties under this subchapter.

6 (b) The commission is subject to Chapters 551 and 552,  
7 Government Code.

8 Sec. 39.609. COMMISSION ABOLISHED; EXPIRATION OF  
9 SUBCHAPTER. (a) The commission is abolished January 1, 2021.

10 (b) This subchapter expires January 1, 2021.

11 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
15 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the  
16 legislative session.