

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	9 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Dembrow, Harker, Huffman, Komp, Maurer, Roblan, Sprenger, VanOrman, Gelser
Nays:	Thatcher
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Kevin T. Christiansen, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/13, 4/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes Task Force on School Computers and Digital Technology. Provides that task force shall determine the cost of providing a laptop computer to each public school student in kindergarten through grade 12 and identify the implementation and cost obstacles to providing laptops to each public school student. Requires task force to report to the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly no later than February 1, 2011, on costs and obstacles to providing laptops or digital technology to all students in kindergarten through grade 12. Repeals measure on January 2, 2012. Declares an emergency; effective July 1, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Providing computers to students
- Learning opportunities afforded students who have access to computers

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The bill is similar to House Bill 2750A introduced during the 2007 Legislative Session. Pilot programs have been created throughout different parts of the state with respect to providing students laptops. The task force created by this measure will make recommendations to the next legislative session on the viability of providing laptop computers to all kindergarten through grade 12 students.