

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 349

BY SENATOR APPEL

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Creates a Technology task force. (8/1/18)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3921.3, relative to the statewide educational technology plan; to require the
3 Department of Education to establish a technology strategy task force to review the
4 statewide plan; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:3921.3 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 **§3921.3. Technology strategy task force; creation, membership, duties**

8 **A. There is hereby created the technology strategy task force, hereafter**
9 **referred to as the "task force", for the purpose of undertaking a thorough**
10 **review and analysis of the statewide technology plan provided for in this Part**
11 **and the status of the technological abilities and projected needs of public**
12 **elementary and secondary schools.**

13 **B. The task force shall be composed of eleven members as follows:**

14 **(1) One member appointed by the state superintendent of education.**

15 **(2) One member appointed by the Louisiana Schools Boards Association.**

16 **(3) One member appointed by the Louisiana Association of School**
17 **Superintendents.**

1 (4) One member appointed by the Louisiana Association of Computer
2 Using Educators.

3 (5) One university faculty member with expertise in technology,
4 appointed by the Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities.

5 (6) One member appointed by the Louisiana Internet and Televison
6 Association.

7 (7) One member appointed by the Louisiana Municipal Association.

8 (8) One member appointed by the president of the State Board of
9 Elementary and Secondary Education.

10 (9) One member appointed by the governor.

11 (10) One member appointed by the president of the Senate.

12 (11) One member appointed by the speaker of the House of
13 Representatives.

14 C. Members shall serve without compensation, but may receive any per
15 diem or reimbursement as allowed by the appointing authority.

16 D. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner of original appointment.

17 E. The state superintendent shall convene the first meeting of the task
18 force not later than September 1, 2018, and shall designate state Department of
19 Education staff to assist the task force in performing its duties and
20 responsibilities. The chairman of the task force shall be selected at the first
21 meeting from among the membership of the task force.

22 F. At a minimum, the task forces shall:

23 (1) Thoroughly review the statewide educational technology plan as it
24 relates to current capabilities and projected future needs for internet services,
25 facility hardware, individual devices, software applications, and training needs.

26 (2) Examine current capabilities and future needs for technology.

27 (3) Identify any technology gaps that exist and examine whether the gaps
28 are due to the school's location or the relative wealth of the public school
29 governing authority.

1 **(4) Determine whether Louisiana Optical Network Infrastructure is a**
2 **potential cost effective partner for providing technology to schools.**

3 **(5) Determine the impact of technology mandates and state and local**
4 **funding mechanisms.**

5 **(6) Define strategic funding needs.**

6 **(7) Determine a strategy to secure available outside funding to assist in**
7 **meeting the technology needs of students.**

8 **(8) Develop a long-term strategy to assist the state Department of**
9 **Education and public school governing authorities to plan for and meet**
10 **technology needs.**

11 **G. The task force shall submit a written report of its findings and any**
12 **recommendations to the Senate Committee on Education and the House**
13 **Committee on Education not later than December 1, 2019.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

DIGEST

SB 349 Original

2018 Regular Session

Appel

Present law provides for the development of instructional technology by the office of instructional technology within the Department of Education. Present law requires the department to create and implement a statewide educational technology plan.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law creates the technology strategy task force to review the technology plan, the current technology capabilities of schools in the state, and projected technology needs, and develop a strategy whereby all schools can meet the technology needs of their students.

Proposed law provides that the task force shall be composed of eleven members as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the state superintendent of education.
- (2) One member appointed by the Louisiana School Boards Association.
- (3) One member appointed by the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents.
- (4) One member appointed by the Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators.
- (5) One university faculty member with expertise in technology, appointed by the Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities.
- (6) One member appointed by the Louisiana Internet and Television Association.

- (7) One member appointed by the Louisiana Municipal Association.
- (8) One member appointed by the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
- (9) One member appointed by the governor.
- (10) One member appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (11) One member appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Adds R.S. 17:3921.3)