

AMENDMENTS TO LB599

Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

1 1. Strike the original section and insert the following new
2 sections:

3 **Section 1.** Sections 1 to 9 of this act shall be known and may be
4 cited as the Holistic Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education
5 Resources Act.

6 **Sec. 2.** For purposes of the Holistic Approach to Cybersecurity for
7 K-12 Education Resources Act:

8 (1) Consortium means a group of schools joined together for purposes
9 of receiving funding pursuant to the Holistic Approach to Cybersecurity
10 for K-12 Education Resources Act for use in purchasing and providing
11 cybersecurity products and services for such schools that is facilitated
12 by an educational service unit;

13 (2) Coordinating council means the Educational Service Unit
14 Coordinating Council;

15 (3) Cybersecurity framework means a structured set of guidelines or
16 standards that are used by governing boards to identify, assess, and
17 manage such governing board's readiness for cybersecurity threats;

18 (4) Cybersecurity implementation team means a dedicated team of
19 individuals that assists participating governing boards with the
20 identification of cybersecurity needs and implementation of cybersecurity
21 tools and that acts as a resource for cybersecurity-related issues;

22 (5) Department means the State Department of Education;

23 (6) Digital citizenship means the ability to use technology
24 responsibly, safely, and respectfully;

25 (7) Governing board means the school board of a school district, the
26 governing board of a private, denominational, or parochial school, or the
27 board of directors of an educational service unit; and

1 (8) School means a school district or an approved or accredited
2 private, denominational, or parochial school offering instruction in
3 elementary or high school grades.

4 **Sec. 3.** (1) The department shall, in coordination with the
5 coordinating council, develop a program to provide funding for the
6 purchase of cybersecurity products and services for use in schools and
7 educational service units. Such program shall include:

8 (a) The process of application by and requirements for governing
9 boards to obtain funding pursuant to the Holistic Approach to
10 Cybersecurity for K-12 Education Resources Act and deadlines for meeting
11 the requirements to receive funding under the act;

12 (b) The creation of distribution methods and requirements relating
13 to the process by which the department distributes funding under the act,
14 including (i) the calculation of funding for each school and educational
15 service unit pursuant to subdivision (2)(b)(i) of this section and (ii)
16 how a school or educational service unit receives or has access to
17 funding under the act, which may include via a consortium as provided in
18 subdivision (1)(c) of this section or otherwise, as provided in rules and
19 regulations adopted and promulgated by the department in coordination
20 with the coordinating council;

21 (c) The creation of consortiums for access to funding under the act,
22 including, but not limited to, the eligibility for a governing board to
23 join a consortium and the process required for a governing board to join
24 a consortium. The program created pursuant to this section shall allow
25 for the creation of as many consortiums as are necessary to facilitate
26 compliance with the act;

27 (d) The requirement that governing boards complete an annual
28 cybersecurity readiness assessment as provided in section 4 of this act;
29 and

30 (e) The creation, in consultation with the Office of the Chief
31 Information Officer, of a list of approved cybersecurity products and

1 services in a tiered system that may be purchased with funding provided
2 pursuant to the Holistic Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education
3 Resources Act.

4 (2)(a) A governing board shall be eligible for funding pursuant to
5 the Holistic Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education Resources Act
6 for use on approved cybersecurity products and services in an amount
7 calculated by the department pursuant to subdivision (b) of this
8 subsection if such governing board (i) submits evidence that such
9 governing board has completed the annual cybersecurity readiness
10 assessment as provided in section 4 of this act, (ii) submits evidence
11 that such governing board has adopted a cybersecurity policy and
12 cybersecurity framework consistent with the model policy and framework
13 developed by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 4 of this
14 act, and (iii) provides any other additional information that the
15 department may require.

16 (b)(i) The department, in coordination with the coordinating
17 council, shall annually calculate the amount of funding each governing
18 board that meets the eligibility requirements of subdivision (2)(a) of
19 this section may receive or have access to pursuant to the rules and
20 regulations adopted and promulgated by the department in coordination
21 with the coordinating council.

22 (ii) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide funding pursuant
23 to this section from the Cybersecurity Education Resources Fund. The
24 funding available pursuant to this section shall not exceed four million
25 four hundred thousand dollars.

26 **Sec. 4.** (1)(a) The State Board of Education shall, in consultation
27 with the coordinating council and the Office of the Chief Information
28 Officer, develop a model cybersecurity policy and cybersecurity framework
29 based on best practices for cybersecurity in schools.

30 (b) Each governing board shall adopt a policy consistent with the
31 model policy and framework developed pursuant to subdivision (a) of this

1 subsection in order to be eligible to receive funding pursuant to the
2 Holistic Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education Resources Act.

3 (2) The coordinating council shall purchase or develop a
4 cybersecurity readiness assessment for use by schools and educational
5 service units to determine the school's tier placement in the
6 cybersecurity framework and eligibility for funding under the Holistic
7 Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education Resources Act.

8 (3) Each governing board shall annually complete the cybersecurity
9 readiness assessment to be eligible for funding under the Holistic
10 Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education Resources Act. Such
11 assessment shall be provided at no cost to each school.

12 **Sec. 5.** (1) The coordinating council shall establish and employ a
13 cybersecurity implementation team to prepare schools on cybersecurity
14 matters and assist educational service units and schools with
15 cybersecurity needs. Such team shall consist of ten individuals and shall
16 include:

17 (a) One director to oversee statewide operations for kindergarten
18 through twelfth grade cybersecurity issues; and

19 (b) Nine regional cybersecurity specialists geographically located
20 to support educational service units and schools with cybersecurity
21 needs.

22 (2) The coordinating council shall assign specialists based on the
23 need of schools.

24 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that two million dollars
25 from the Cybersecurity Education Resources Fund be used to pay for the
26 employment and work of the cybersecurity implementation team.

27 **Sec. 6.** (1) The State Board of Education shall adopt digital
28 citizenship standards for schools and include such standards within
29 relevant content area standards as appropriate and applicable.

30 (2) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
31 coordinating council, shall develop and maintain a digital citizenship

1 curriculum for students and training materials for teachers and parents.
2 Such curriculum and training materials may be provided to each school at
3 no cost.

4 (3) Educational service units shall annually create digital
5 citizenship training for teachers. Each school shall provide an
6 opportunity for parents of students in attendance at such school to have
7 access to or take such training annually.

8 **Sec. 7.** (1) The department shall, in consultation with the
9 coordinating council and the Office of the Chief Information Officer,
10 develop a pipeline for technology careers program. Such program shall
11 include, but not be limited to:

12 (a) Creating academic pathways beginning in high school to encourage
13 students to continue to pursue (i) technology education in postsecondary
14 educational institutions and (ii) technology careers;

15 (b) Providing for internships with companies or schools in Nebraska
16 to allow students in the pipeline for technology careers program to gain
17 cybersecurity industry experience;

18 (c) Providing financial incentives for students enrolled in the
19 pipeline for technology careers program to commit to work in Nebraska,
20 particularly rural areas of the state, for a set number of years
21 following graduation from a postsecondary educational institution with a
22 degree in the cybersecurity field; and

23 (d) The development of a method to evaluate the success of the
24 pipeline for technology careers program, including, but not limited to,
25 examining graduation rates of individuals in the program and technology
26 job creation in Nebraska.

27 (2) The State Board of Education shall adopt and promulgate rules
28 and regulations for the pipeline for technology careers program,
29 including, but not limited to, (a) academic requirements for
30 participation in the program and (b) a prioritization metric for students
31 who commit to serve in rural Nebraska upon completion of the program.

1 **Sec. 8.** (1) The Cybersecurity Education Resources Fund is created.
2 The fund shall be administered by the department and shall be used to
3 carry out the Holistic Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education
4 Resources Act. Any money in the Cybersecurity Education Resources Fund
5 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment
6 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska
7 State Funds Investment Act.

8 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature to transfer ten million
9 dollars for fiscal year 2025-26, and each fiscal year thereafter, from
10 the General Fund to the Cybersecurity Education Resources Fund to carry
11 out the Holistic Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education Resources
12 Act.

13 **Sec. 9.** The State Board of Education and the coordinating council
14 may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the Holistic
15 Approach to Cybersecurity for K-12 Education Resources Act.

16 **Sec. 10.** Section 79-1248, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
17 amended to read:

18 79-1248 The powers and duties of the Educational Service Unit
19 Coordinating Council include, but are not limited to:

20 (1) Providing public access to lists of qualified distance education
21 courses;

22 (2) Collecting and providing school schedules for participating
23 educational entities;

24 (3) Facilitation of scheduling for qualified distance education
25 courses;

26 (4) Brokering of qualified distance education courses to be
27 purchased by educational entities;

28 (5) Assessment of distance education needs and evaluation of
29 distance education services;

30 (6) Compliance with technical standards as set forth by the Nebraska
31 Information Technology Commission and academic standards as set forth by

1 the State Department of Education related to distance education;

2 (7) Establishment of a system for scheduling courses brokered by the
3 council and for choosing receiving educational entities when the demand
4 for a course exceeds the capacity as determined by either the technology
5 available or the course provider;

6 (8) Administration of learning management systems, either through
7 the staff of the council or by delegation to an appropriate educational
8 entity, with the funding for such systems provided by participating
9 educational entities; ~~and~~

10 (9) Coordination with educational service units and postsecondary
11 educational institutions to provide assistance for instructional design
12 for both two-way interactive video distance education courses and the
13 offering of graduate credit courses in distance education; ~~and -~~

14 (10) Coordination with the State Board of Education, State
15 Department of Education, Office of the Chief Information Officer, and
16 educational service units in implementing the Holistic Approach to
17 Cybersecurity for K-12 Education Resources Act.

18 **Sec. 11.** Original section 79-1248, Reissue Revised Statutes of
19 Nebraska, is repealed.