



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 1416

LCO No. 5361

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Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:

(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION DURING A PANDEMIC OR OTHER CRISIS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Department of Education, in
2 consultation with Departments of Public Health, Information
3 Technology and Public Utility Control, shall study and make
4 recommendations for developing a plan to provide instruction and
5 other educational services on a remote basis to students in grades
6 kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, in the event of school closings or
7 mass student or teacher absences due to a pandemic or other crisis in
8 the state. The study shall:

9 (1) Assess how the state's current emergency plans address
10 instructional issues, including the role of state and local education
11 officials in those plans;

12 (2) Analyze alternative systems for delivering remote instruction to
13 students outside of school facilities, such as through the Internet or
14 broadcast or cable television, along with the technical and
15 infrastructure requirements for each delivery system;

16 (3) Evaluate the educational issues raised by remote instruction,
17 including the type and duration of the instruction, the state and local
18 agencies and educational personnel involved, the curriculum to be
19 used, the suitability of existing public or private on-line or broadcast
20 educational programs, how students and teachers would interact and
21 how students' work would be evaluated; and

22 (4) Estimate the cost of providing remote instruction during a
23 pandemic or other crisis and identify sources of funding for planning
24 for and delivering such services.

25 (b) Not later than February 6, 2008, the Department of Education
26 shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
27 statutes, report its findings in accordance with the provisions of
28 subsection (a) of this section and any recommendations for legislation
29 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
30 cognizance of matters relating to education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To prepare a plan for the uninterrupted education of students during a pandemic or other crisis.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]