

HB3977



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB3977

Introduced 1/8/2020, by Rep. Rita Mayfield

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.56

Amends the School Code. Permits student instruction to be received electronically under a school district's program for e-learning days while students are not physically present because a school was selected to be a polling place under the Election Code.

LRB101 15453 CMG 64785 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 10-20.56 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.56)

7 Sec. 10-20.56. E-learning days.

8 (a) The State Board of Education shall establish and
9 maintain, for implementation in school districts, a program for
10 use of electronic-learning (e-learning) days, as described in
11 this Section.

12 (b) The school board of a school district may, by
13 resolution, adopt a research-based program or research-based
14 programs for e-learning days district-wide that shall permit
15 student instruction to be received electronically while
16 students are not physically present in lieu of the district's
17 scheduled emergency days as required by Section 10-19 of this
18 Code or because a school was selected to be a polling place
19 under Section 11-4.1 of the Election Code. The research-based
20 program or programs may not exceed the minimum number of
21 emergency days in the approved school calendar and must be
22 verified by the regional office of education or intermediate
23 service center for the school district on or before September

1 1st annually to ensure access for all students. The regional
2 office of education or intermediate service center shall ensure
3 that the specific needs of all students are met, including
4 special education students and English learners, and that all
5 mandates are still met using the proposed research-based
6 program. The e-learning program may utilize the Internet,
7 telephones, texts, chat rooms, or other similar means of
8 electronic communication for instruction and interaction
9 between teachers and students that meet the needs of all
10 learners. The e-learning program shall address the school
11 district's responsibility to ensure that all teachers and staff
12 who may be involved in the provision of e-learning have access
13 to any and all hardware and software that may be required for
14 the program. If a proposed program does not address this
15 responsibility, the school district must propose an alternate
16 program.

17 (c) Before its adoption by a school board, the school board
18 must hold a public hearing on a school district's initial
19 proposal for an e-learning program or for renewal of such a
20 program, at a regular or special meeting of the school board,
21 in which the terms of the proposal must be substantially
22 presented and an opportunity for allowing public comments must
23 be provided. Notice of such public hearing must be provided at
24 least 10 days prior to the hearing by:

25 (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation
26 in the school district;

1 (2) written or electronic notice designed to reach the
2 parents or guardians of all students enrolled in the school
3 district; and

4 (3) written or electronic notice designed to reach any
5 exclusive collective bargaining representatives of school
6 district employees and all those employees not in a
7 collective bargaining unit.

8 (d) The regional office of education or intermediate
9 service center for the school district must timely verify that
10 a proposal for an e-learning program has met the requirements
11 specified in this Section and that the proposal contains
12 provisions designed to reasonably and practicably accomplish
13 the following:

14 (1) to ensure and verify at least 5 clock hours of
15 instruction or school work, as required under Section
16 10-19.05, for each student participating in an e-learning
17 day;

18 (2) to ensure access from home or other appropriate
19 remote facility for all students participating, including
20 computers, the Internet, and other forms of electronic
21 communication that must be utilized in the proposed
22 program;

23 (2.5) to ensure that non-electronic materials are made
24 available to students participating in the program who do
25 not have access to the required technology or to
26 participating teachers or students who are prevented from

1 accessing the required technology;

2 (3) to ensure appropriate learning opportunities for
3 students with special needs;

4 (4) to monitor and verify each student's electronic
5 participation;

6 (5) to address the extent to which student
7 participation is within the student's control as to the
8 time, pace, and means of learning;

9 (6) to provide effective notice to students and their
10 parents or guardians of the use of particular days for
11 e-learning;

12 (7) to provide staff and students with adequate
13 training for e-learning days' participation;

14 (8) to ensure an opportunity for any collective
15 bargaining negotiations with representatives of the school
16 district's employees that would be legally required,
17 including all classifications of school district employees
18 who are represented by collective bargaining agreements
19 and who would be affected in the event of an e-learning
20 day;

21 (9) to review and revise the program as implemented to
22 address difficulties confronted; and

23 (10) to ensure that the protocol regarding general
24 expectations and responsibilities of the program is
25 communicated to teachers, staff, and students at least 30
26 days prior to utilizing an e-learning day.

1 The school board's approval of a school district's initial
2 e-learning program and renewal of the e-learning program shall
3 be for a term of 3 years.

4 (e) The State Board of Education may adopt rules consistent
5 with the provision of this Section.

6 (Source: P.A. 100-760, eff. 8-10-18; 101-12, eff. 7-1-19.)