

# SB0746



## 95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

SB0746

Introduced 2/8/2007, by Sen. Deanna Demuzio

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

30 ILCS 105/5.635  
105 ILCS 5/2-3.135

Amends the School Code and the State Finance Act. Extends the technology immersion pilot project established by the State Board of Education for another 3 years. Extends the repeal of provisions concerning the technology immersion pilot project to August 31, 2010 (instead of August 31, 2007). Effective August 30, 2007.

LRB095 10806 NHT 31056 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

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 State Finance Act is amended by changing and  
5 renumbering Section 5.625, added by Public Acts 93-901 and  
6 93-904, as follows:

7 (30 ILCS 105/5.635)

8 (Section scheduled to be repealed on August 31, 2007)

9 Sec. 5.635 ~~5.625~~. The Technology Immersion Pilot Project  
10 Fund. This Section is repealed on August 31, 2010 ~~2007~~.

11 (Source: P.A. 93-901, eff. 8-10-04; 93-904, eff. 8-10-04;  
12 revised 11-8-04.)

13 Section 10. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
14 2-3.135 as follows:

15 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.135)

16 (Section scheduled to be repealed on August 31, 2007)

17 Sec. 2-3.135. Technology immersion pilot project.

18 (a) The State Board of Education shall by rule establish a  
19 technology immersion pilot project to provide a wireless laptop  
20 computer to each student, teacher, and relevant administrator  
21 in a participating school and implement the use of software,

1 on-line courses, and other appropriate learning technologies  
2 that have been shown to improve academic achievement and the  
3 progress measures listed in subsection (f) of this Section.

4 (b) The pilot project shall be for a period of at least 6 ~~3~~  
5 years. The State Board shall establish a procedure and develop  
6 criteria for the administration of the pilot project. In  
7 administering the pilot project, the State Board shall:

8 (1) select participating school districts or schools;

9 (2) define the conditions for the distribution and use  
10 of laptop computers and other technologies;

11 (3) purchase and distribute laptop computers and other  
12 technologies;

13 (4) enter into contracts as necessary to implement the  
14 pilot project;

15 (5) monitor local pilot project implementation; and

16 (6) conduct a final evaluation of the pilot project.

17 (c) The Technology Immersion Pilot Project Fund is created  
18 as a special fund in the State treasury. All money in the  
19 Technology Immersion Pilot Project Fund shall be used, subject  
20 to appropriation, by the State Board for the pilot project. To  
21 implement the pilot project, the State Board may use any funds  
22 appropriated by the General Assembly for the purposes of the  
23 pilot project as well as any gift, grant, or donation given for  
24 the pilot project. The State Board may solicit and accept a  
25 gift, grant, or donation of any kind from any source, including  
26 from a foundation, private entity, governmental entity, or

1 institution of higher education, for the implementation of the  
2 pilot project. Funds for the pilot project may not be used for  
3 the construction of a building or other facility.

4 The State Board shall use pilot project funds for the  
5 following:

6 (1) the purchase of wireless laptop computers so that  
7 each student, teacher, and relevant administrator in a  
8 participating classroom has a wireless laptop computer for  
9 use at school and at home;

10 (2) the purchase of other equipment, including  
11 additional computer hardware and software;

12 (3) the hiring of technical support staff for school  
13 districts or schools participating in the pilot project;  
14 and

15 (4) the purchase of technology-based learning  
16 materials and resources.

17 The State Board may not allocate more than \$10 million for  
18 the pilot project. The pilot project may be implemented only if  
19 sufficient funds are available under this Section for that  
20 purpose.

21 (d) A school district may apply to the State Board for the  
22 establishment of a technology immersion pilot project for the  
23 entire district or for a particular school or group of schools  
24 in the district.

25 The State Board shall select 7 school districts to  
26 participate in the pilot project. One school district shall be

1 located in the City of Chicago, 3 school districts shall be  
2 located in the area that makes up the counties of DuPage, Kane,  
3 Lake, McHenry, Will, and that portion of Cook County that is  
4 located outside of the City of Chicago, and 3 school districts  
5 shall be located in the remainder of the State.

6 The State Board shall select the participating districts  
7 and schools for the pilot project based on each district's or  
8 school's need for the pilot project. In selecting participants,  
9 the State Board shall consider the following criteria:

10 (1) whether the district or school has limited access  
11 to educational resources that could be improved through the  
12 use of wireless laptop computers and other technologies;

13 (2) whether the district or school has the following  
14 problems and whether those problems can be mitigated  
15 through the use of wireless laptop computers and other  
16 technologies:

17 (A) documented teacher shortages in critical  
18 areas;

19 (B) limited access to advanced placement courses;

20 (C) low rates of satisfactory performance on  
21 assessment instruments under Section 2-3.64 of this  
22 Code; and

23 (D) high dropout rates;

24 (3) the district's or school's readiness to  
25 incorporate technology into its classrooms;

26 (4) the possibility of obtaining a trained technology

1 support staff and high-speed Internet services for the  
2 district or school; and

3 (5) the methods the district or school will use to  
4 measure the progress of the pilot project in the district  
5 or school in accordance with subsection (f) of this  
6 Section.

7 The State Board shall if possible select at least 9 schools  
8 to participate in the pilot project, with at least 3 from the  
9 school district located in the City of Chicago and one from  
10 each of the other school districts selected.

11 (e) Each participating school district or school shall  
12 establish a technology immersion committee to assist in  
13 developing and implementing the technology immersion pilot  
14 project.

15 The school board of a participating district or of a  
16 district in which a participating school is located shall  
17 appoint individuals to the committee. The committee may be  
18 composed of the following:

19 (1) educators;

20 (2) district-level administrators;

21 (3) community leaders;

22 (4) parents of students who attend a participating  
23 school; and

24 (5) any other individual the school board finds  
25 appropriate.

26 The committee shall develop an academic improvement plan

1 that details how the pilot project should be implemented in the  
2 participating district or school. In developing the academic  
3 improvement plan, the committee shall consider (i) the  
4 educational problems in the district or school that could be  
5 mitigated through the implementation of the pilot project and  
6 (ii) the technological and nontechnological resources that are  
7 necessary to ensure the successful implementation of the pilot  
8 project.

9 The committee shall recommend to the school board how the  
10 pilot project funds should be used to implement the academic  
11 improvement plan. The committee may recommend annually any  
12 necessary changes in the academic improvement plan to the  
13 school board. The State Board must approve the academic  
14 improvement plan or any changes in the academic improvement  
15 plan before disbursing pilot project funds to the school board.

16 (f) The school board of each school district participating  
17 in the pilot project shall send an annual progress report to  
18 the State Board no later than August 1 of each year that the  
19 district is participating in the pilot project. The report must  
20 state in detail the type of plan being used in the district or  
21 school and the effect of the pilot project on the district or  
22 school, including the following:

23 (1) the academic progress of students who are  
24 participating in the pilot project, as measured by  
25 performance on assessment instruments;

26 (2) if applicable, a comparison of student progress in

1 a school or classroom that is participating in the pilot  
2 project as compared with student progress in the schools or  
3 classrooms in the district that are not participating in  
4 the pilot project;

5 (3) any elements of the pilot project that contribute  
6 to improved student performance on assessment instruments  
7 administered under Section 2-3.64 of this Code or any other  
8 assessment instrument required by the State Board;

9 (4) any cost savings and improved efficiency relating  
10 to school personnel and the maintenance of facilities;

11 (5) any effect on student dropout and attendance rates;

12 (6) any effect on student enrollment in higher  
13 education;

14 (7) any effect on teacher performance and retention;

15 (8) any improvement in communications among students,  
16 teachers, parents, and administrators;

17 (9) any improvement in parental involvement in the  
18 education of the parent's child;

19 (10) any effect on community involvement and support  
20 for the district or school; and

21 (11) any increased student proficiency in technologies  
22 that will help prepare the student for becoming a member of  
23 the workforce.

24 (g) Each student participating in the pilot project may  
25 retain the wireless laptop computer provided under the pilot  
26 project as long as the student is enrolled in a school in a



1 participating school district.

2 (h) After the expiration of the 6-year ~~3-year~~ pilot  
3 project, the State Board shall review the pilot project based  
4 on the annual reports the State Board receives from the school  
5 board of participating school districts.

6 (i) This Section is repealed on August 31, 2010 ~~2007~~.

7 (Source: P.A. 93-901, eff. 8-10-04; 93-904, eff. 8-10-04.)

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect August  
9 30, 2007.