

SB 584

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# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 2000



## ENROLLED

Committee Substitute for  
SENATE BILL NO. 584

(By Senators Stomblin, Mr. President, and Sprouse,  
By Request of the Executive)



PASSED March 11, 2000

In Effect July 1, 2000 ~~Passage~~

# ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

## **Senate Bill No. 584**

(SENATORS TOMBLIN, MR. PRESIDENT, AND SPROUSE,  
BY REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE)

[Passed March 11, 2000; to take effect July 1, 2000.]

AN ACT to amend article two-e, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated section nine, relating to the creation of the West Virginia virtual school within the department of education to offer high quality educational courses via internet technology to students who are not advantageously located with respect to schools; setting forth findings; providing for appointment and powers and duties of director; and requiring report on progress to legislative oversight commission on education accountability by a certain date.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That article two-e, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section nine, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 2E. HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.**

**§18-2E-9. West Virginia Virtual School.**

1 (a) Findings: – The Legislature finds that:

2 (1) West Virginia schools have improved and expanded  
3 internet access which enables schools to offer courses  
4 through the internet and other new and developing  
5 technologies;

6 (2) Current technology is available to provide students  
7 with more resources for learning and new and developing  
8 technologies offer even more promise for expanded  
9 learning opportunities;

10 (3) A number of states and other jurisdictions have  
11 developed internet-based instruction which is available  
12 currently and which is being used by schools in this state;

13 (4) To educate better the students of West Virginia, more  
14 course and class offerings can be made available through  
15 technology, especially to students who are geographically  
16 disadvantaged;

17 (5) Virtual learning enables students to learn from  
18 remote sites, learn at times other than the normal school  
19 day and learn at a different pace and gives students access  
20 to courses that would not be available in their area;

21 (6) There is a need to assure that internet-based courses  
22 and courses offered through new and developing technolo-  
23 gies are of high quality; and

24 (7) The state and county school systems can benefit from  
25 the purchasing power the state can offer.

26 (b) The Legislature hereby creates the West Virginia  
27 virtual school. The West Virginia virtual school shall be  
28 located within the office of technology and information  
29 systems within the West Virginia department of education.

30 (c) The state superintendent of schools shall appoint the  
31 director of the West Virginia Virtual School with the  
32 approval of the state board.

33 (d) The director of the West Virginia virtual school has  
34 the following powers and duties:

35 (1) To contract with providers for courses and other  
36 services;

37 (2) To review courses and courseware and make determi-  
38 nations and recommendations relative to the cost and  
39 quality of the courses and the alignment with the instruc-  
40 tional goals and objectives of the state board;

41 (3) To develop policy recommendations for consideration  
42 by the state board, which may include, but not be limited  
43 to, the following:

44 (A) Hardware and software considerations for the  
45 offering of courses on the internet or other developing  
46 technologies;

47 (B) Standards of teachers and other school employees  
48 who are engaged in the activities surrounding the offering  
49 of courses on the internet or other developing technologies;

50 (C) Sharing of resources with other agencies of govern-  
51 ment, both within and outside West Virginia, to facilitate  
52 the offering of courses on the internet or other developing  
53 technologies;

54 (D) Methods for including courses offered on the internet  
55 or through other developing technologies in alternative  
56 education programs;

57 (E) Methods for making courses offered on the internet  
58 or through other developing technologies available for  
59 students receiving home instruction;

60 (F) Methods for brokering the courses offered on the  
61 internet or through other developing technologies;

62 (G) Methods for applying for grants;

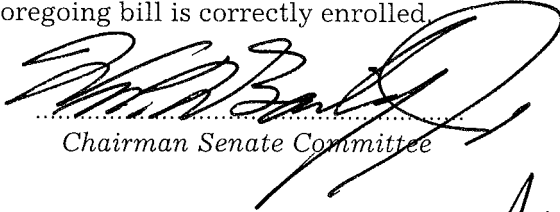
63 (H) Methods for employing persons who are the most  
64 familiar with the instructional goals and objectives to  
65 develop the courses to be offered on the internet and  
66 through other developing technologies; and

67 (I) Proper funding models that address all areas of  
68 funding including, but not limited to, which county, if any,  
69 may include a student receiving courses on the internet or  
70 through other developing technologies in enrollment and  
71 who, if anyone, is required to pay for the courses offered  
72 on the internet or through other developing technologies;  
73 and

74 (4) Any other powers and duties necessary to address the  
75 findings of the Legislature in subsection (a) of this section.

76 (e) The West Virginia department of education shall  
77 report the progress of the West Virginia virtual school to  
78 the legislative oversight commission on education account-  
79 ability on or before the first day of September, two  
80 thousand.

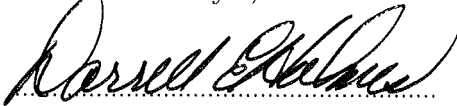
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

  
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Chairman Senate Committee

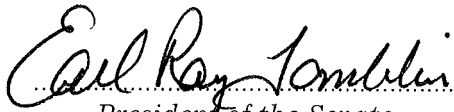
  
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Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

Takes effect July 1, 2000.

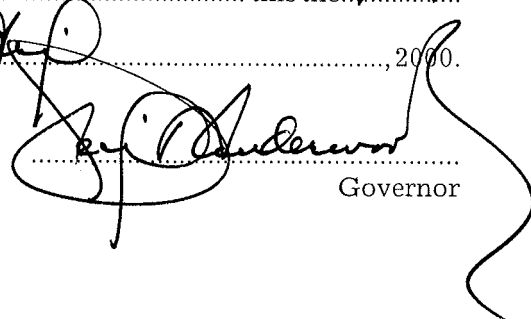
  
.....  
Clerk of the Senate

  
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Clerk of the House of Delegates

  
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President of the Senate

  
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Speaker House of Delegates

The within..... *approved* ..... this the *11<sup>th</sup>* ..  
Day of..... *April* .., 2000.

  
.....  
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date

3/23/02

Time

4:05 pm