

1 SJR34
2 217123-1
3 By Senator Singleton
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 08-FEB-22

CREATING THE JOINT INTERIM STUDY COMMISSION ON
RESPONSIBLE TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES BY PUBLIC EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, technology is rapidly changing at an
astonishing pace; in the past few years, staying current in
the constantly changing and innovative world of technology is
necessary and can be very expensive; and

WHEREAS, for our future workforce to remain
competitive, our public K-12 and two-year and four-year
institutions of higher education must keep pace academically
with rapid technological change, often with limited budgets;
now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Joint
Interim Study Commission on Responsible Technology Purchases
by Public Education to examine the short-term and long-term
fiscal impact of the significant increase in mass technology
purchases, and to recommend new methods of addressing any
potential economic, privacy, and environmental impacts of
those purchases.

1 (a) The membership of the commission shall consist
2 of all of the following:

3 (1) The State Superintendent of Education, or his or
4 her designee.

5 (2) The Chancellor of the Alabama Community College
6 System, or his or her designee.

7 (3) The Executive Director of the Alabama Commission
8 on Higher Education, or his or her designee.

9 (4) The Chair of the Senate Education Policy
10 Committee, or his or her designee.

11 (5) The Chair of the House Education Policy
12 Committee, or his or her designee.

13 (6) The Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation
14 Education Committee, or his or her designee.

15 (7) The Chair of the House Ways and Means Education
16 Committee, or his or her designee.

17 (8) The Senate Minority Leader, or his or her
18 designee.

19 (9) The House of Representatives Minority Leader, or
20 his or her designee.

21 (10) The State Finance Director, or his or her
22 designee.

23 (11) An educational, hardware technology specialist
24 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.

25 (b) Designations shall be coordinated so that
26 diversity of gender, race, and geographical areas is
27 reflective of the makeup of this state.

1 (c) The Chairs of the Senate Finance and Taxation
2 Education Committee and the House Ways and Means Education
3 Committee shall serve as cochairs of the commission. The
4 commission shall meet as soon as practical at a time and place
5 set by the chairs. Notice of the meetings of the commission
6 shall be provided in a manner consistent with the rules of the
7 Legislature pertaining to interim committees.

8 (d) In addition to reviewing the existing methods
9 and processes for mass technology purchases, the commission
10 shall consider the viability of establishing and implementing
11 a model total cost of ownership (TCO) matrix or calculator for
12 public K-12 and higher education to utilize when making large
13 purchases of technology. In designing a simple and
14 straightforward model template for a TCO matrix or calculator,
15 the commission should take into consideration all of the
16 following factors:

17 (1) Residual or resale value of devices versus
18 initial costs.

19 (2) Leasing and fair market value financing options.

20 (3) End-of-life device buyback options.

21 (4) Sustainability plans for future refreshes.

22 (5) Environmental impact of end-of-use disposal
23 methods.

24 (6) Data privacy assurances at end-of-life.

25 (e) The Senate and the Legislative Services Agency
26 shall provide the necessary staff and support to the
27 commission to perform its duties.

1 (f) (1) The Legislative members of the commission
2 shall be entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem,
3 and travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the
4 commission in accordance with Amendment 871 of the
5 Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

6 (2) Other members of the commission may be
7 reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of the
8 commission according to policies and procedures of their
9 respective appointing authorities.

10 (g) The commission shall report its findings to the
11 Legislature, along with proposed legislation, and publish its
12 final report on the website of the Legislature, not later than
13 January 1, 2023, at which time the commission shall stand
14 dissolved.