

HB376 INTRODUCED



1 HB376
2 CXCZZJQ-1
3 By Representative Robbins
4 RFD: Education Policy
5 First Read: 03-Feb-26



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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 This bill would create certain requirements for
6 instructional technology used by local boards of
7 education in public school classrooms.

8 This bill would require local boards of
9 education, upon request, to provide parents with
10 certain information about the student's use of and
11 access to instructional technology in the student's
12 classroom.

13 This bill would require the State Board of
14 Education to create a model policy on the use of
15 technology in public schools.

16 This bill would require the adoption and
17 implementation of the model policy by local boards of
18 education.

19 This bill would require the creation and
20 implementation of age-appropriate screen time limits
21 and Internet access limits for each grade level.

22 This bill would also require the State Board of
23 Education to adopt rules.

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 A BILL

 TO BE ENTITLED

 AN ACT



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30 Relating to public K-12 education; to provide for
31 instructional technology requirements; to require local boards
32 of education to provide parents with certain information about
33 a student's use of and access to instructional technology; to
34 require the State Board of Education to create a model policy
35 on the use of certain technology in public schools; to require
36 the adoption and implementation of the model policy by local
37 boards of education; to require the creation and
38 implementation of age-appropriate screen time limits and
39 Internet access limits for each grade level; and to require
40 the State Board of Education to adopt rules.

41 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

42 Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the
43 following terms have the following meanings:

44 (1) INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY. Technology that a student
45 uses in connection to curriculum and instructional
46 experiences. The term includes technology such as electronic
47 devices, digital tools, and digital applications.

48 (2) PARENT. The same meaning as defined in Section
49 16-6F-4, Code of Alabama 1975.

50 (3) PUBLIC SCHOOL. The same meaning as defined in
51 Section 16-46B-1, Code of Alabama 1975.

52 (4) SCREEN TIME. Time spent by a student using an
53 electronic device with a screen in a classroom setting. The
54 term does not include when the use of the electronic device
55 involves direct instruction, guidance, or interaction with a
56 teacher, instructor, or other designated educational

HB376 INTRODUCED



57 personnel, or instruction for an online student.

58 (b) (1) Instructional technology used in public schools:

59 a. May not be unreasonably used as a substitute for
60 direct, teacher-led instruction;

61 b. Must be designed specifically for instructional use;

62 c. Must be absent of design features that interfere
63 with learning or distract from instruction;

64 d. Must be effective in supporting student learning
65 outcomes;

66 e. Must be safe for students' physical, cognitive, and
67 emotional development;

68 f. Must be supported by evidence or demonstrated
69 educational value appropriate for the grade level;

70 g. Must be intentionally integrated to enhance learning
71 outcomes; and

72 h. Must be compliant with applicable state standards
73 and laws, including privacy and data protection regulations.

74 (2) Local boards of education shall select, deploy, and
75 monitor instructional technology in accordance with the
76 requirements of this subsection, and shall adopt internal
77 monitoring policies and conduct training for faculty and
78 staff, as necessary, to ensure compliance with this section.

79 (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt a method
80 for evaluating and measuring the effectiveness of the
81 requirements for instructional technology described in
82 subdivision (b) (1).

83 (4) Upon request, local boards of education shall
84 provide parents of an enrolled student with any of the



85 following:

86 a. Access to a list of all instructional technology
87 used in the student's classroom.

88 b. Access to the student's school-issued electronic
89 device, account credentials, and browsing history, if
90 applicable.

91 (c) (1) Before the 2027-2028 school year, the State
92 Board of Education shall develop a model policy on balanced
93 instructional technology use in the classroom to be adopted by
94 each local board of education. The model policy shall
95 accomplish all of the following:

96 a. Provide age-appropriate screen time limits and
97 Internet access limits for each grade level.

98 b. Require transparency with parents regarding the use
99 of instructional technology.

100 c. Prohibit instructional technology practices that
101 compromise student safety, privacy, or well-being.

102 d. Require regular review of instructional technology
103 to ensure compliance with established standards pursuant to
104 subsection (b).

105 e. Promote educators' modeling of appropriate and
106 responsible technology use.

107 f. Emphasize best practices for screen time in public
108 schools.

109 (2) The State Board of Education shall publish the
110 model policy on the website of the board.

111 (d) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules, as
112 necessary, to provide for the implementation of this section.



HB376 INTRODUCED

113 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
114 1, 2026.