

SB0267S03 compared with SB0267S01

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in SB0267S01 but was omitted in SB0267S03

inserted text shows text that was not in SB0267S01 but was inserted into SB0267S03

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1

Software in Education Amendments
2026 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Kirk A. Cullimore
House Sponsor: Doug Fiefia



2

3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill requires the State Board of Education (state board) to create a statewide digital privacy agreement and creates certain requirements and accountability procedures regarding a student's use of software in a public school.

8 **Highlighted Provisions:**

9 This bill:

- 9 ▶ defines terms;
- 10 ▶ requires the ~~{State Board of Education}~~ state board to:
- 11 • create a statewide digital privacy agreement for educational software;
 - 12 • ensure that all educational software used in a public school is executed under the statewide digital privacy agreement and academically effective;
 - 14 • create a ~~{master list}~~ process for a vendor to certify that the vendor's software ~~{used in public schools}~~ is academically effective;
 - 17 • monitor compliance with certain requirements;
 - 15 • create a list of approved software;

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 16 • {~~independently~~} verify software as academically effective;
- 17 • {~~enforce compliance with the requirements of this section through periodic audits;~~}
- 18 • create a process for a parent to submit a complaint; and
- 19 • create rules to implement the requirements of this section;
- 20 ▶ creates {~~a certain exception~~} exceptions for the statewide digital privacy agreement;
- 21 ▶ requires a local education agency (LEA), the Utah Education and Telehealth Network, and the
{~~State Board of Education~~} state board to:
- 23 • execute the statewide digital privacy agreement for all educational software contracts; and
- 24 • verify certain software is academically effective;
- 28 ▶ requires the use of a digital privacy agreement for administrative software;
- 29 ▶ allows a vendor to offer educational software to a contracting entity on a provisional basis;
- 25 ▶ requires an LEA to notify parents of all software a public school uses during the school year;
- 27 ▶ requires the state board to consult with the Office of the Attorney General; and
- 28 ▶ requires a vendor to:
- 29 • execute the statewide digital privacy agreement for all educational software contracts with a
contracting entity; and
- 31 • {~~demonstrate that the vendor's~~} verify all educational software is academically effective.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

38 None

Other Special Clauses:

40 This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

42 ENACTS:

43 **53G-7-1401** , Utah Code Annotated 1953

44 **53G-7-1402** , Utah Code Annotated 1953

45 **53G-7-1403** , Utah Code Annotated 1953

46 **53G-7-1404** , Utah Code Annotated 1953

47 **53G-7-1405** , Utah Code Annotated 1953

48 **53G-7-1406** , Utah Code Annotated 1953

49 **53G-7-1407** , Utah Code Annotated 1953

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

51 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

52 Section 1. Section 1 is enacted to read:

54 **53G-7-1401. General provisions -- Definitions.**

14. Software Policy

As used in this part:

56 (1) "Academic progress" means advancement toward mastery of state academic standards through practice, application, feedback, or demonstration of knowledge or skill.

50 (1){(2)} "Academically effective" means software that:

51 (a) is designed to {support} provide support, or enable student active learning, skill development, or academic {performance} progress in the intended subject area {~~as supported by~~} ;

53 {(i) {~~peer-reviewed research~~};}

54 {(ii) {~~evidence of positive learning outcomes~~};}

55 {(iii) {~~sound pedagogical principles recognized in the field of education~~; or}

56 {(iv) {~~independent evaluation demonstrating educational effectiveness~~};}

57 (b) where applicable, aligns with the public education core standards described in Section 53E-4-202;

58 {(e) {~~demonstrates instructional effectiveness through~~};}

59 {(f) {~~supporting differentiated instruction~~};}

60 {(g) {~~providing formative assessment and feedback~~};}

61 {(h) {~~engaging students in active learning~~};}

62 {(i) {~~supplementing teacher instruction~~; or}

63 {(j) {~~other recognized evidence based learning strategies~~};}

64 (d){(c)} does not employ design features that primarily:

65 (i) interfere with active learning; or

66 (ii) undermine teacher instructional authority; and

67 (e){(d)} {~~produces positive academic outcomes~~} contributes to or enables measurable academic progress or skill development when used as intended.

68 (2){(3)} "Active learning" means instruction that requires a student to engage in cognitive processes including analyzing, reasoning, practicing, or creating to understand or apply knowledge or skills.

71 (3){(4)}

(a) "Addictive design feature" means a feature or component of a digital or online product that encourages or increases a student's frequency, time spent, or engagement with the product.

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 74 (b) "Addictive design feature" includes the following features:
- 75 (i) infinite scroll;
- 76 (ii) autoplay that continues beyond the educational task or lesson;
- 77 (iii) points, badges, or other gamification rewards tied to time spent on the product rather than learning
objectives or academic progress;
- 79 (iv) persistent notifications prompting re-engagement when the product is not actively in use, unless:
- 81 (A) a teacher initiates the notification; and
- 82 (B) the notification is directly related to assigned schoolwork;
- 83 (v) personalized recommendation systems designed to maximize time-on-platform rather than learning
outcomes; or
- 85 (vi) engagement metrics, streaks, or social comparison features designed to create fear of missing out or
compulsive checking behavior.
- 87 (c) "Addictive design feature" does not include a:
- 88 (i) recommendation of next lessons or learning activities based on curriculum progression or mastery of
prerequisites;
- 90 (ii) notification about a teacher-assigned or course-required assignment, deadline, or teacher feedback;
or
- 92 (iii) feature that encourages active learning rather than passive consumption.
- 93 (5) "Administrative software" means software that a contracting entity uses solely for administrative,
operational, or other non-instructional functions of the contracting entity.
- 93 (4){(6)} "Clickstream data" means data an LEA or third-party provider collects from a student's use of
an online service, application, or device that records the student's navigation or sequence of actions.
- 96 (5){(7)} "Contracting entity" means the following entities if that entity contracts with a vendor for
software:
- 98 (a) an LEA;
- 99 (b) the state board; or
- 100 (c) UETN.
- 101 (6){(8)} "Digital privacy agreement" means a contract between a contracting entity and a digital
provider that:
- 103 (a) ensures compliance with Title 53E, Chapter 9, Student Privacy and Data Protection; and
- 105 (b) governs access, use, protection, retention, and disclosure of student data.

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 106 (7){(9)}
- (a) "Educational purpose" means a purpose directly related to:
- 107 (i) student instruction;
- 108 (ii) assessment of a student; or
- 109 (iii) school operations necessary for instruction of a student.
- 110 (b) "Educational purpose" does not include:
- 111 (i) marketing;
- 112 (ii) targeted advertising;
- 113 (iii) behavioral profiling; or
- 114 (iv) any other commercial purpose.
- 117 (10) "Educational software" means software that:
- 118 (a) serves an educational purpose;
- 119 (b) is designed for student instruction, assessment, or instructional support;
- 120 (c) is executed under the statewide digital privacy agreement; and
- 121 (d) is verified for academic effectiveness in accordance with the requirements of this section.
- 115 (8){(11)} "Independently verified" means the characteristic of software that an impartial third party {-
with no financial or contractual relationship with the vendor and -} with demonstrated expertise
appropriate to the {type of software} software type, whom the vendor does not own, {checks -}
control or direct, and whose compensation does not depend on the evaluation outcome, evaluates
for:
- 118 {(a) {safety;-}}
- 119 (b){(a)} academic effectiveness; and
- 120 (c){(b)} compliance with the requirements of this part.
- 121 {(9) {"Instructional software" means software that is safe, legal, and effective because the software is:-}}
- 123 {(a) {part of a digital privacy agreement; and-}}
- 124 {(b) {verified for academic effectiveness in accordance with the requirements of this section.-}}
- 126 (10){(12)} "Internet service provider" means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-5c-401.
- 127 (11){(13)} "Passive consumption" means receiving information through viewing, listening, or browsing
without requiring the student to engage in cognitive processing necessary to analyze, apply, or
create knowledge or skills.

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 130 (12){(14)} "School-issued device" means any electronic hardware device an LEA provides to a student
for educational use.
- 135 (15) "Skill development" means the acquisition or improvement of academic abilities or competencies
necessary to perform a task aligned to state academic standards, including guided practice,
modeling, or feedback.
- 132 (13){(16)}
- (a) "Software" means any application, web-based service, plug-in, or other code-based product,
regardless of whether the application is free or for purchase, that:
- 134 (i) runs on or is accessible from a school-issued device ; or { ~~from a student-owned device that the
student uses for the student's education; and~~ }
- 136 (ii) an LEA assigns, requires, { ~~recommends,~~ } installs, or otherwise makes available for student use
in connection with classroom instruction, including through a school-issued account or identity.
- 138 (b) "Software" includes software an individual uses during school hours in connection with school-
related purposes for:
- 140 (i) instruction;
- 141 (ii) assessment;
- 142 (iii) communication;
- 143 (iv) collaboration;or
- 144 (v) enrichment{~~;~~or};
- 145 {(vi) {recreation.}}
- 146 (c) "Software" does not include physical, electronic hardware.
- 147 (14){(17)} "Statewide digital privacy agreement" means the digital privacy agreement the state board
creates in accordance with Section 53G-7-1402.
- 149 (15){(18)}
- (a) "Student data" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53E-9-301.
- 150 (b) "Student data" includes a student's:
- 151 {(i) {personally identifiable information;}}
- 152 (i) personal data as that term is defined in Section 13-61-101;
- 152 (ii) metadata, device identifiers, and clickstream data;
- 153 (iii) behavioral, engagement, or usage data; and
- 154 (iv) information a software collects, generates, or infers in the course of student use.

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 155 (16){(19)} "Sub-processor" means a third-party vendor or service that a primary data processor engages
to process personal data on the processor's behalf.
- 157 (17){(20)}
- (a) "Telecommunications carrier" means an entity that provides transmission, routing, or connectivity
services for digital communications, including wireless, broadband, or data transport services,
without modifying the content of communications.
- 161 (b) "Telecommunications carrier" includes an internet service provider.
- 162 (18){(21)} "Utah Education and Telehealth Network" or "UETN" means the same as that term is
defined in Section 53H-4-213.1.
- 164 (19){(22)}
- (a) "Vendor" means an entity that provides software, digital tools, digital services, or related technology
to a contracting entity for student use, whether free or paid.
- 166 (b) "Vendor" does not include:
- 167 (i) a telecommunications carrier; or
- 168 (ii) an internet service provider.
- 169 (20){(23)} "Voice-print" means a digital representation of an individual's voice that a person creates,
derives, or uses to identify or authenticate the individual.
- 176 Section 2. Section 2 is enacted to read:
- 177 **53G-7-1402. Statewide digital privacy agreement -- Exceptions.**
- 173 (1) The state board shall create a {form} statewide digital privacy agreement , before July 1, 2027, that:
- 174 (a) governs student use of educational software and digital services in a public {schools;} school for:
- 182 (i) kindergarten through grade 6; and
- 183 (ii) core standards, described in Section 53E-4-202, in grades 7 through 12;
- 175 (b) complies with the requirements of Title 53E, Chapter 9, Student Privacy and Data Protection,
including:
- 177 (i) data minimization;
- 178 (ii) prohibitions on advertising or promotional content {directed at a student} , including:
- 179 (A) advertising products or services to a student while the student is using educational software {of
instructional material } ;
- 181 (B) allowing a third-party to advertise a product or a service to a student; and
- 182

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- (C) the inclusion of advertising or promotional content within educational software { of instructional material } accessible to a student;
- 184 (iii) limits on secondary data use;
- 185 (iv) security safeguards;
- 186 (v) breach notifications;
- 187 (vi) data retention and deletion requirements; and
- 188 (vii) directory information protections;
- 189 (c) complies with the sensitive materials requirements described in Section 53G-10-103;
- 190 (d) { ~~unless an LEA obtains parental consent in accordance with Section 53G-10-402,~~ } requires that educational software may not display, recommend, algorithmically generate, or provide access to any instructional or supplemental content that constitutes:
- 193 { (i) { ~~human sexuality instruction;~~ } }
- 202 (i) pornographic or indecent material as that term is defined in Section 76-5c-208; or
- 194 (ii) sexual { education } exploitation or abuse;
- 195 { (iii) { ~~maturation instruction;~~ } }
- 196 { (iv) { ~~content relating to reproduction, contraception, sexual activity, or sexually transmitted diseases; or~~ } }
- 198 { (v) { ~~sexual-health-related information;~~ } }
- 199 (e) prohibits addictive design features;
- 200 (f) prohibits a vendor from collecting, storing, or analyzing:
- 201 (i) biometric identifiers, except for:
- 202 (A) voice recognition for speech-to-text accessibility features; or
- 203 (B) other biometric data explicitly required for a student's IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan; and
- 205 (ii) behavioral or emotional signals for purposes of:
- 206 (A) psychological profiling;
- 207 (B) emotional manipulation;
- 208 (C) commercial marketing or advertising; or
- 209 (D) any purpose other than improving educational outcomes;
- 210 (g) provides that any data collected under Subsection (1)(f):
- 211 (i) is disclosed in the statewide digital privacy agreement;
- 212 (ii) is the minimum amount necessary for the educational purpose;

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 213 (iii) is not used for commercial purposes; and
214 (iv) is subject to strict security safeguards;
215 (h) requires a vendor to:
216 (i) use encryption for data in transit and at rest;
217 ~~{(ii) {store and process all student data within the United States;}}~~
218 (iii)~~{(ii)}~~ disclose ~~{all sub-processors and obtain approval before}~~ the use{:} of sub-processors; and
219 ~~{(iv) {prohibit background data collection when software is minimized or inactive; and}}~~
220 (v)~~{(iii)}~~ disclose to the contracting entity all data elements collected, third-party recipients, embedded
libraries and analytics tools, device-level permissions, and artificial intelligence components and
functions;
223 (i) prohibits educational software from accessing a device's camera and microphone unless:
224 (i) necessary for an educational function; and
225 (ii) disclosed in the digital privacy agreement;
226 (j) prohibits a vendor from conditioning access, features, pricing, or support on a:
227 (i) usage quota; or
228 (ii) screen-time expectation; {and}
229 (k) includes a termination-for-cause provision that:
230 (i) requires the vendor to cure any violation of the digital privacy agreement within a timeline the state
board establishes;
232 (ii) authorizes the contracting entity to terminate the contract if the vendor fails to cure the violation of
the digital privacy agreement required under Subsection (1)(k)(i);
235 (iii) provides that the termination described in this Subsection (1)(k) may occur without penalty, early-
termination fee, or additional obligation to the contracting entity;
238 (iv) requires the vendor to acknowledge that termination under this Subsection (1)(k) does not
constitute a breach by the contracting entity; and
240 (v) when a vendor fails to cure as required under Subsection (1)(k)(i), authorizes the state board
to direct the contracting entity to terminate the contract or terminate the contracting entity's
participation in the contract on the contracting entity's behalf{:} ; and
248 (1) prohibits educational software that a vendor designs for peer-to-peer communication unless the
educational software includes an administrative control that enables an administrator to turn peer-to-
peer communication on or off.

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 251 (2) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (1) the state board may allow a contracting entity to modify the statewide data privacy agreement if the state board determines the modification to be necessary for a contract with a specific vendor.
- 254 (3)
- (a) A contracting entity may use administrative software without executing the statewide digital privacy agreement.
- 256 (b) Before a contracting entity uses administrative software, the contracting entity shall execute a digital privacy agreement that includes the requirements described in Subsection (1)(b).
- 244 (2){(4)} This part does not apply to a telecommunications carrier or internet service provider, or to any affiliate of the telecommunication carrier or internet service provider, when acting solely as a passive conduit for the transmission, routing, or provision of internet connectivity or network access for software or digital services a student uses, including:
- 248 (a) the transmission or routing of data packets;
- 249 (b) the provision of wireless or broadband connectivity;
- 250 (c) network management, quality-of-service, cybersecurity, or fraud-prevention functions; or
- 252 (d) the provision of device-level operating systems or firmware updates that are not designed to collect, analyze, or monetize student data.
- 269 Section 3. Section 3 is enacted to read:
- 270 **53G-7-1403. Vendor -- Duties.**
- 256 {(+) }
- (a){(1)} Before the vendor allows {an individual} a contracting entity to install, assign, {recommend,} or otherwise make the educational software available for student use, the vendor shall:
- 258 (i){(a)} execute the statewide digital privacy agreement; and
- 259 (ii){(b)} {procure an independent verification of the software} subject to {demonstrate} Section 53G-7-1407, verify that the {vendor's} educational software is academically effective through self-verification or independent verification, in accordance with the process the state board creates in Section 53G-7-1405.
- 261 {(b) {Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a)(ii), a vendor may make software available for use to a contracting entity on a provisional basis for up to 24 months from the initial deployment of the software if:} }
- 264 {(i) {the vendor submits a verification plan to the state board within 90 days of initial use, including:} }

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 266 {~~(A) {a proposed methodology for demonstrating academic effectiveness;}~~}
- 267 {~~(B) {a timeline for completion of independent verification; and}~~}
- 268 {~~(C) {interim measures to assess educational value; and}~~}
- 269 {~~(ii) {the vendor demonstrates to the state board that the software:}~~}
- 270 {~~(A) {aligns with state core education standards;}~~}
- 271 {~~(B) {has research-supported pedagogical design; or}~~}
- 272 {~~(C) {has been successfully used in other comparable educational settings.}~~}
- 273 {~~(e) {A student may not use software made available under Subsection (1)(b) without consent from the student's parent.}~~}
- 275 {~~(d) {A contracting entity shall notify a student's parent of:}~~}
- 276 {~~(f) {the implementation of software on a provisional basis in accordance with Subsection (1)(b); and}~~
}
- 278 {~~(ii) {the consent required to use the software under Subsection (1)(c).}~~}
- 279 {~~(e) {During the provisional period described in Subsection (1)(b), the contracting entity and vendor shall collect data necessary for academic effectiveness verification.}~~}
- 281 (2) A vendor shall:
- 282 {~~(a) {include the following in the process of obtaining the independent verification described in Subsection (1)(a):}~~}
- 284 {~~(i) {a description of the evaluator's research or evaluation methods;}~~}
- 285 {~~(ii) {identification of the student populations, grade levels, or instructional contexts under evaluation;}~~
}
- 287 {~~(iii) {evidence that the vendor did not produce, fund, or influence the results;}~~}
- 288 {~~(iv) {disclosure of any limitations in the evidence or methodology; and}~~}
- 289 (v){~~(a) {determination of whether the}~~ submit to the state board a {determination of whether the} written certification that the educational software {provides educational value sufficient to justify classroom use} is academically effective;
- 280 (b) comply with the rules and timelines the state board establishes under Section 53G-7-1405;
- 291 (b){~~(c) {complete}~~ provide the state board access to all records, documents, and data necessary to {complete}
comply with the {audits} monitoring requirements described in Section 53G-7-1405; and
- 293 (c){~~(d) {execute the statewide digital privacy agreement before providing educational software or digital services to a contracting entity.}~~}

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 295 (3) A vendor may appeal a finding of noncompliance, issued under Section 53G-7-1405, through the
296 administrative process the state board establishes.
- 297 {~~(4)~~ {~~A vendor may not alter, supplement, replace, or modify the statewide digital privacy agreement.~~}}
298 }
- 299 (5){~~(4)~~ A vendor-proposed privacy agreement, end-user license agreement, click-through terms, terms
300 of service, or substitute contract is void and unenforceable with respect to student data or student
301 use.
- 302 (5) A vendor may not:
- 303 (a) alter, supplement, replace, or modify the statewide digital privacy agreement; or
- 304 (6){~~(b)~~ {~~A vendor may not~~} request or require that a parent or contracting entity:
- 305 (a){~~(i)~~} waive any right under this part;
- 306 (b){~~(ii)~~} agree to arbitration that limits this part; or
- 307 (c){~~(iii)~~} accept liability limitations inconsistent with this part.
- 308 Section 4. Section 4 is enacted to read:
- 309 **53G-7-1404. Contracting Entity -- Duties.**
- 310 (1) A contracting entity shall:
- 311 (a) execute the statewide digital privacy agreement for any educational software the contracting entity
312 adoptsor continues using;
- 313 (b) unless the entity is contracting for {a-} an educational software that the state board has previously
314 approved and listed on the list described in Subsection {53G-7-1405(1)(a)(v)} 53G-7-1405(1)
315 (a)(ii), obtain documentation of a vendor's {independent-} verificationof academic effectiveness,
316 {described-} in {Subsection 53G-7-1403(1)(b)} accordance with the timelines and rules the state
317 board establishes under Section 53G-7-1405, {demonstrating that the software is academically
318 effective-} before {the contracting entity makes-} adopting or continuing use of the educational
319 software {available-} for an individual to:
- 320 (i) install;
- 321 (ii) assign;or
- 322 {~~(iii)~~ {~~recommend; or-~~}
- 323 (iv){~~(iii)~~} make available for student use;
- 324 (c) submit to the state board for listing:
- 325 (i) the executed statewide digital privacy agreement required under Subsection {(1)(a)} (1); and

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 323 (ii) if necessary under Subsection (1)(b), the verification documentation described in Subsection (1)(b);
and
- 325 (d) provide the state board access to all records, documents, and data necessary to ~~{complete-}~~ comply
with the ~~{audits-}~~ monitoring requirements described in Section 53G-7-1405.
- 327 (2) A contracting entity may ~~{not alter, supplement, replace, or modify the statewide digital privacy~~
~~agreement.}~~ :
- 319 (a) charge a reasonable fee to a vendor to administer the requirements of this section; and
- 329 (3)~~(b)~~ {A contracting entity may} appeal a finding of noncompliance the state board issues under
Section 53G-7-1405 through the administrative process the state board establishes.
- 331 (4)~~(3)~~
- (a) A contracting entity that is not the state board may request a modification to the statewide data
privacy agreement in accordance with Subsection 53G-7-1402(2).
- 324 (b) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(a), a contracting entity may not alter, supplement, replace, or
modify the statewide digital privacy agreement.
- 326 (4)
- (a) A contracting entity shall ensure that a digital privacy agreement between a vendor and a contracting
entity executed before ~~{July-}~~ January 1, {2026} 2028, complies with the requirements of this
section before July 1, ~~{2028}~~ 2029.
- 334 (b) Between {July-} January 1, {2026} 2028, and July 1, {2028} 2029, a contracting entity may
continue to use an existing digital privacy agreement if the contracting entity actively works toward
compliance with the statewide digital privacy agreement.
- 332 Section 5. Section 5 is enacted to read:
- 333 **53G-7-1405. State board and local education agencies -- Compliance -- Duties.**
- 339 (1)
- (a) The state board shall:
- 340 (i) ensure that educational software is not available for use in student instruction without ~~{an~~
~~independent evaluator}~~ verifying the software for academic effectiveness;
- 342 (ii) maintain a public list of independent evaluators that ~~{meet the standards described in~~
~~Subsection 53G-7-1403(2)(a)}~~ a vendor may use to verify educational software as academically
effective;and
- 344 ~~{(iii) {create and maintain a statewide master list of software that students use in public schools;}}~~

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 346 { (iv) { ~~place software on the master list described in Subsection (1)(a)(iii) when a contracting entity,~~
in accordance with Section 53G-7-1404.} }
348 {(A) { ~~executes a statewide digital privacy agreement; and~~ } }
339 (iii) before July 1, 2028, create a process that allows a vendor to demonstrate academic
effectiveness through:
341 (A) vendor self-verification; or
349 (B) { ~~obtains~~ } independent verification { ~~that the software is academically effective; and~~ } ;
350 (v){ (b) } { ~~create and maintain a list of all software the~~ } The state board { ~~approves for student~~
use under } may consult software vendors for technical input regarding functionality or
implementation of the requirements of this section.
352 {(b) { ~~A software's exclusion from the master list does not prevent a contracting entity from using the~~
software if the software meets the requirements of Section 53G-7-1404.} }
354 {(c) { ~~A software's inclusion on the master list described in Subsection (1)(a)(iii) does not constitute~~
state board approval or endorsement.} }
356 (2)
(a) The state board shall:
357 (i) ~~monitor~~ { ~~and enforce~~ } compliance with this section { ~~through periodic audits of:~~ } ;
358 {(A) { ~~contracting entities; and~~ } }
359 {(B) { ~~vendors;~~ } }
360 (ii) beginning July 1, { ~~2028~~ } 2029, { ~~audit~~ } periodically monitor each LEA { ~~at least once every~~
three years; } to confirm that, for every educational software product students use that is not on
the state board approved list described in Subsection { ~~(1)(a)(v)~~ } (1)(a)(ii), the LEA has:
363 (A) executed the statewide digital privacy agreement; and
364 (B) obtained the verification documentation;and
365 { ~~(iii) { in performing the audits required under Subsection (2)(a)(i), review vendor compliance~~
~~with:~~ } }
367 {(A) { ~~the requirements of this part; and~~ } }
368 {(B) { ~~Title 53E, Chapter 9, Student Privacy and Data Protection; and~~ } }
369 (iv){ (iii) } issue a written compliance report, { following each audit required } when monitoring
compliance under this Subsection (2)(a), identifying:
371 (A) findings of compliance and noncompliance;

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 372 (B) required corrective actions; and
- 373 (C) applicable timelines for remediation.
- 374 (b) The state board may publish {audit} findings under Subsection (2)(a) to:
- 375 (i) promote transparency; and
- 376 (ii) make the public aware of compliant and noncompliant practices.
- 377 (3) If the state board finds an LEA to be out of compliance with the requirements of Section
53G-7-1404, the LEA shall:
- 379 (a) discontinue use of the noncompliant educational software;
- 380 (b) remedy the source of the noncompliance; and
- 381 (c) implement a corrective-action plan to prevent future violations.
- 382 (4) The state board shall provide:
- 383 (a) technical guidance and transition support to contracting entities and vendors regarding the transition
to the statewide digital privacy agreement and academic effectiveness requirements; and
- 386 (b) implementation timelines and instructions necessary for contracting entities to achieve compliance.
- 388 (5) The state board may prioritize technical guidance and transition support for:
- 389 (a) vendors executing digital privacy agreements with multiple contracting entities;
- 390 (b) statewide or consortium contracts; or
- 391 (c) software with known privacy, safety, or effectiveness concerns.
- 392 (6) An LEA may not use software other than {instructional} educational software in a public school for
instruction of a student.
- 394 (7) Before an LEA enters into a digital privacy agreement with a vendor for educational software, the
LEA shall ensure that the digital privacy agreement meets each of the requirements of the statewide
digital privacy agreement the state board creates under Section 53G-7-1402.
- 397 (8) An LEA shall:
- 398 (a) provide a parent, annually, with a list of all {instructional} educational software products:
- 399 (i) for which the vendor has executed a statewide digital privacy agreement;
- 400 (ii) for which a vendor has completed the {independent} verification of academic effectiveness
required under Section 53G-7-1403; and
- 402 (iii) that the LEA may assign, require, recommend, or otherwise made available for student use during
the upcoming school year;
- 404 (b) ensure that the list described in Subsection (8)(a) includes, at minimum:

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 405 (i) the product name and vendor;
- 406 (ii) the educational software's primary instructional purpose;
- 407 (iii) a link to the educational software's statewide digital privacy agreement; and
- 408 (iv) except as provided in Section 53G-7-1407, a link to the academic effectiveness verification a
vendor is required to produce under Section 53G-7-1403;
- 410 (c) publish the list described in Subsection (8)(a) on the LEA's public website;and
- 411 (d) update the list described in Subsection (8)(a) { within 10 business days of } with any addition or
removal of { a } an educational software product { : } .
- 413 { ~~(e) { for any instructional software added during the course of the school year; } }~~
- 414 { ~~(i) { provide written notice to parents within 10 school days of the products approval; } }~~
- 415 { ~~(ii) { include links to the product's statewide digital privacy agreement and academic effectiveness
verification summary; and } }~~
- 417 { ~~(iii) { provide this notice before assigning the software or making it available for student use; } }~~
- 419 { ~~(f) { provide parents with written notice of any significant software update or change in data-collection
or data-sharing practices that; } }~~
- 421 { ~~(i) { may affect compliance with the statewide digital privacy agreement; or } }~~
- 422 { ~~(ii) { may trigger new consent requirements under state or federal law; and } }~~
- 423 { ~~(g) { maintain a publicly accessible archive of instructional software that students previously used,
including; } }~~
- 425 { ~~(i) { the software name and vendor; and } }~~
- 426 { ~~(ii) { the dates during which the product was in active use; } }~~
- 427 (9) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the state board shall
make rules to implement the requirements of this part, including rules to:
- 430 (a) create a statewide digital privacy agreement;
- 431 (b) create an administrative process for a parent to submit a complaint in accordance with Section
53G-7-1406;
- 433 (c) create a process for vendors and contracting entities to appeal a finding of noncompliance;
- 435 (d) before January 1, 2028, create a process for ensuring all educational software is academically
effective { : } , including:
- 407 (i) classifying software based on whether the software is:
- 408

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

- 411 (A) student-facing and if the student uses the software directly for instruction, practice, assessment,
412 feedback, communication, collaboration, accessibility, or other learning-related interaction; or
413 (B) used solely for administrative or technical infrastructure functions;
414 (ii) requiring evaluation of educational software within each classification and establishing
415 classification-specific methodologies or evidentiary standards for determining whether educational
416 software provides, enables, or supports:
- 417 (A) active learning;
418 (B) skill development; or
419 (C) academic progress; and
420 (iii) creating the verification process described in Subsection (1)(a)(iii);
- 421 (e) create standards and a process for approving and listing the educational software described in
422 Subsection ~~{(1)(a)(v);}~~ (1)(a)(ii); and
423 ~~{(f) {create and maintain the master list described in Subsection (1)(a)(iii);-}}~~
424 ~~{(g) {conduct the audits required under Subsection (2)(a); and-}}~~
425 ~~(h){(f)}~~ create a process for receiving and responding to complaints a parent submits under Section
426 53G-7-1406.
- 427 Section 6. Section 6 is enacted to read:
428 **53G-7-1406. Complaints -- Enforcement.**
429 (1)
430 (a) A parent may submit a written complaint to the state board alleging:
431 (i) a contracting entity using educational software without executing a statewide digital privacy
432 agreement;
433 (ii) a contracting entity using educational software without being verified as academically effective;
434 or
435 (iii) a vendor's violation of the statewide digital privacy agreement.
- 436 (b) Upon receiving a complaint described in Subsection (1)(a), the state board shall consult with the
437 Office of the Attorney General to:
438 (i) review the complaint;
439 (ii) determine if a violation has occurred;
440 (iii) notify the parent of the determination; and
441 (iv) take appropriate enforcement action under this part if noncompliance is found.

SB0267S01 compared with SB0267S03

456 (2) A court shall award the Office of the Attorney General reasonable attorney fees, court costs, and
457 investigative expenses incurred in an action under this part.

439 Section 7. Section 7 is enacted to read:

440 **53G-7-1407. Provisional software.**

441 (1) Notwithstanding Subsection 53G-7-1403(1)(a)(ii) and before July 1, 2028, a vendor may make
442 educational software available for use to a contracting entity on a provisional basis for up to 24
443 months from the initial deployment of the software if:

444 (a) the vendor submits a verification plan to the contracting entity before the educational software is
445 made available for student use, including:

446 (i) a proposed methodology for demonstrating academic effectiveness;

447 (ii) a timeline for completion of verification of academic effectiveness; and

448 (iii) interim measures to assess active learning, skill development, or academic progress in the intended
449 subject area; and

450 (b) the vendor demonstrates to the contracting entity that the educational software:

451 (i) aligns with state core education standards; and

452 (ii) meets an educational purpose.

453 (2) A student may not use educational software made available under Subsection (1)(a) without consent
454 from the student's parent.

455 (3) A contracting entity shall notify a student's parent of:

456 (a) the implementation of educational software on a provisional basis in accordance with Subsection (1)
457 (a); and

458 (b) the consent required to use the educational software under Subsection (1)(b).

459 (4) During the provisional period described in Subsection (1)(a), the contracting entity and vendor
460 shall collect data necessary for academic effectiveness verification in accordance with the statewide
461 digital privacy agreement.

462 Section 8. **Effective date.**

Effective Date.

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.

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