

HB218 S01: DIGITAL SKILLS AMENDMENTS

SPONSOR: REPRESENTATIVE TEUSCHER

BACKGROUND

There is an existing digital literacy class required for junior high students in 7th or 8th grade, and this would replace that class with more robust standards. It is powerful to have the state legislature and the governor give guidance on these standards since it is an important issue for the state.

The internet, social media, and AI have become regular parts of daily life, but these platforms can cause significant harm if they are not used responsibly. HB218s01 seeks to teach students how to be safe and knowledgeable when engaging with online platforms.

WHAT DOES HB218 DO?

Requires the State School Board to offer a digital skills course taught in 7th or 8th grade.

Outlines clear digital skills standards for the middle school course.

Creates an advisory tech council to provide guidance and recommendations to the superintendent for tech education.

The bill is intended to teach students valuable skills to navigate the online world early in their lives. The bill requires the curriculum to teach skills such as:

- Social Media Usage
- Algorithm Influence
- AI Literacy
- Digital Privacy
- Cybersecurity
- Screen Time Management
- Cyberbullying Prevention

