

Representative Johnny Anderson proposes the following substitute bill:

KINDERGARTEN LITERACY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

2011 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Johnny Anderson

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill provides for a school district or charter school to establish a computer-based kindergarten literacy program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ requires the State Board of Education to issue a request for proposals, for an educational technology provider to provide a computer-based literacy improvement program for kindergarten students;
- ▶ provides that the State Board of Education may use certain money to contract with an education technology provider to provide the computer-based kindergarten literacy improvement program;
- ▶ requires the computer-based kindergarten literacy program software to:
 - provide pre- and post-assessments;
 - include instruction in the five domains of reading;
 - be adaptive; and
 - provide multiple remedial activities to struggling students;
- ▶ provides that the State Board of Education may provide grants to school districts and charter schools that choose to participate in the program to purchase and



26 maintain computers for kindergarten classrooms; and

27 ▶ requires the State Board of Education to report to the Education Interim Committee
28 and the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

29 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

30 None

31 **Other Special Clauses:**

32 None

33 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

34 ENACTS:

35 **53A-17a-150.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

38 Section 1. Section **53A-17a-150.5** is enacted to read:

39 **53A-17a-150.5. Kindergarten Literacy Improvement Program.**

40 (1) As used in this section:

41 (a) "Board" means the State Board of Education; and

42 (b) "Program" means a kindergarten literacy improvement program described in this
43 section.

44 (2) The board shall issue a request for proposals, for an educational technology
45 provider to provide a computer-based literacy improvement program for kindergarten students
46 that meets the requirements of this section.

47 (3) The program shall:

48 (a) include software that has the capability to:

49 (i) assess a student at the beginning and end of the program, and in an ongoing manner,
50 to show progress;

51 (ii) provide instruction in the five domains of reading as defined in Section
52 53A-1-606.5;

53 (iii) be adaptive, allowing a student to automatically progress to more challenging
54 content; and

55 (iv) provide multiple remedial activities when a student struggles; and

56 (b) include headsets for student use.

57 (4) The board may use no more than \$2,500,000 from the appropriation for Early
58 Intervention to contract with an educational technology provider to provide the program.

59 (5) From funds appropriated for Early Intervention, a school district or charter school
60 may apply to the board to receive a grant to purchase and maintain computers for kindergarten
61 classrooms in participating schools to be used primarily to operate the program.

62 (6) A school district or charter school participating in the program shall:

63 (a) annually conduct a pre- and post-kindergarten reading assessment for a
64 kindergarten student participating in the program;

65 (b) ensure that a kindergarten student who has the greatest need for literacy
66 improvement, as determined by pre-assessments, is given priority in using the program;

67 (c) ensure that kindergarten students, on average, spend at least 80 minutes per week
68 utilizing the program; and

69 (d) annually report to the board:

70 (i) the number of students served by the program;

71 (ii) the number of computers purchased with the money; and

72 (iii) the results of the pre- and post-assessments in accordance with Subsection (6)(a).

73 (7) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, and
74 consistent with this part, the board shall make rules establishing application and reporting
75 procedures necessary to administer this section.

76 (8) The board shall annually report to the Public Education Appropriations
77 Subcommittee and the Education Interim Committee:

78 (a) the number of school districts, schools, and students participating in the program;
79 and

80 (b) the results of the assessments described in Subsections (3)(a)(i) and (6)(a).

81 (9) The assessment results described in Subsection (8)(b) shall be reported separately
82 for:

83 (a) students who are at high risk of not attaining proficiency in reading, as determined
84 by the assessments given at the beginning of the program; and

85 (b) students who are at low risk of not attaining proficiency in reading, as determined
86 by the assessments given at the beginning of the program.