

SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY AMENDMENTS

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Travis M. Seegmiller

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

Committee Note:

The Judiciary Interim Committee recommended this bill.

Legislative Vote: 13 voting for 1 voting against 2 absent

General Description:

This bill requires digital resources, provided by UETN to Utah's public schools, to block obscene or pornographic material.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ requires a digital resource provider to ensure that the digital resource provider's products used in public schools block "obscene or pornographic material";
- ▶ provides that a digital resource provider's failure to comply with this bill after receiving notice is a breach of contract;
- ▶ requires UETN to enter into contracts with digital resource providers that comply with the provisions of this bill; and
- ▶ imposes a reporting requirement.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None



28 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

29 AMENDS:

30 **53B-17-101.5**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 63

31 ENACTS:

32 **53B-17-109**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

35 Section 1. Section **53B-17-101.5** is amended to read:

36 **53B-17-101.5. Definitions.**

37 As used in this part:

38 (1) "Board" means the Utah Education and Telehealth Network Board.

39 (2) "Education Advisory Council" means the Utah Education Network Advisory
40 Council created in Section **53B-17-107**.

41 (3) "Digital resource" means a digital or online library resource, including a database.

42 (4) "Digital resource provider" means an entity that offers a digital resource to
43 customers for license or sale.

44 (5) "Obscene or pornographic material" means material that:

45 (a) an average person, applying contemporary community standards, finds that, taken
46 as a whole, appeals to prurient interest in sex;

47 (b) is patently offensive in the description or depiction of nudity, sexual conduct,
48 sexual excitement, sadomasochistic abuse, or excretion; and

49 (c) taken as a whole does not have serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

50 ~~[(3)]~~ (6) "Telehealth" means the electronic transfer, exchange, or management of
51 related data for diagnosis, treatment, and consultation, and educational, public health, or other
52 related purposes.

53 ~~[(4)]~~ (7) "Telehealth Advisory Council" means the Utah Telehealth Advisory Council
54 created in Section **53B-17-106**.

55 ~~[(5)]~~ (8) "Utah Education and Telehealth Network," or "UETN," means a consortium
56 and partnership between public and higher education, the Utah Department of Health, and
57 health care providers, that is created in Section **53B-17-105**.

58 Section 2. Section **53B-17-109** is enacted to read:

59 **53B-17-109. Digital resource standards.**

60 (1) A digital resource purchased or licensed by UETN and offered to students in public
61 schools must have safety policies and technology protection measures that:

62 (a) prohibit and prevent a public school student using the resource from sending,
63 receiving, viewing, or downloading obscene or pornographic material; and

64 (b) filter or block access to obscene or pornographic material.

65 (2) (a) Regardless of any contract provision to the contrary, if UETN discovers a digital
66 resource does not meet the requirements described in Subsection (1), UETN:

67 (i) shall notify the digital resource provider; and

68 (ii) may withhold future payments pending the digital resource provider's compliance
69 with Subsection (1).

70 (b) A digital resource provider is in breach of contract if the digital resource provider
71 fails to verify compliance with Subsection (1) within 90 days after the day on which UETN
72 provides the notice described in Subsection (2)(a)(i).

73 (c) Beginning June 1, 2021, a contract UETN enters into for a digital resource shall
74 contain provisions that comply with this section.

75 (3) Before November 30 of each year, UETN shall submit a report to the Education
76 Interim Committee detailing all instances of a digital resource provider's failure to comply with
77 the provisions of this section.