

Florida Department of Education

Bill Number: House Bill 1421

Bill Title: Digital Divide Council

Bill Sponsor: Representative Brise

Effective Date: July 1, 2007

DOE Contact: Kate Kemker, Chief, Bureau of Instruction and Innovation, (850) 245-9868

Executive Summary:

The bill recreates the Digital Divide Council in the Department of Education. The Council was previously a part of the State Technology Office.

Membership of the council has changed to include a representative from the information technology industry in Florida, appointed by the Governor and will no longer include the Chief information officer or the chair of the Network Access Point of the Americas as members.

Reporting and meeting dates have changed.

Administrative and technical support will be provided by the Department of Education.

General Implementation Timeline:

- The appointed members of the council shall serve a 1-year term beginning on July 1, 2007.
- The appointed members of the council shall end their service on Jun 30, 2008.
- Successor appointees shall serve 2-year terms beginning July 1, 2008.
- The council shall conduct its initial meeting by August 1, 2007 and then at least once every 90 days after.
- The council, through the Department of Education, shall report evaluations and recommendations to the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by March 1, 2008.