State of Arkansas
82nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 1999

By: Senators D. Malone, Mahony

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO REPLACE THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM COMPUTER NETWORK ADVISORY COUNCIL BY CREATING A PUBLIC EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BOARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

"AN ACT TO REPLACE THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM COMPUTER NETWORK ADVISORY COUNCIL BY CREATING A PUBLIC EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BOARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 6-11-124(c) pertaining to the statewide computer network for schools is amended to read as follows:

“(c)(1)(A) As a means of providing assistance to, and coordination of efforts between the Department of Education, IMPAC Learning Systems, Inc., the Department of Information Systems, and users of the statewide computer network, and other educational technology applications, there is hereby created the Public School System Computer Network Advisory Council, Public Education Technology Advisory Board, which shall consist of nine (9) members as follows:

(i) The President of the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority;

(ii) The Director of the Department of Information Systems;
(iii) The Director of the Arkansas Department of Education;

(iv) Three (3) citizens of the State of Arkansas who are knowledgeable in the various aspects of educational finance who shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of names submitted by the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators. The first three (3) citizen members shall serve staggered terms, determined by lot so that one (1) serves a one (1) year term, one (1) serves a two (2) year term, and the other serves a three (3) year term. Successors shall serve three (3) year terms;

(v) Three (3) members appointed by the Governor from a list of names submitted by the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators who are knowledgeable in the various aspects of the student and instruction application. Such members shall serve staggered terms determined by lot so that one (1) serves a one (1) year term, one (1) serves a two (2) year term, and the other serves a three (3) year term. Successors shall serve three (3) year terms.

(B) The members of the Public School System Computer Network Advisory Council shall serve without pay and represent the needs and interests of citizens and users of the network and data educational technology. The members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Director of the Department of Education. The Director of the Department of Education, President of the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority shall be designated as chairman of the Public School System Computer Network Advisory Council. The board shall be convened at the call of the chair. The Department of Education and the Department of Information Systems shall provide appropriate staff support.

(2) In addition to providing assistance and coordination, the council board may also assist and offer advice regarding the purchase or lease of equipment utilized in the computer network system. The council board may create such advisory committees as it may deem necessary to assist it in carrying out its functions. The memberships of these advisory committees may include members of the board and other persons drawn from various sources, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the board. Members of the advisory committees shall serve without compensation for their membership on the committees.

(3) The board shall issue an annual report on the condition of
educational technology in Arkansas to the Governor, the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology, and the Joint Interim Oversight Subcommittee on Educational Reform."

SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

APPROVED: 2/16/1999