

# OVERVIEW OF SSB 5410: AN ACT RELATED TO ONLINE LEARNING

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# SSB 5410: Legislative “Intent”

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- Take the first step in improving oversight and quality assurance of online learning programs.
- Examine possible additional steps that may need to be taken to improve financial accountability.

# SSB 5410: “The First Step”

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- Provide objective information to students, parents, and educators regarding available online learning opportunities, including:
  - ▣ Program and course content.
  - ▣ How to register for programs and courses.
  - ▣ Teacher qualifications.
  - ▣ Student-to-teacher ratios.
  - ▣ Prior course completion rates.
  - ▣ And other valuable information.
- Create an approval process for multidistrict online providers.

# SSB 5410: “The First Step” continued

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- Enhance statewide equity of student access to high quality online learning opportunities.
- Require school district boards of directors to develop policies and procedures for student access to online learning opportunities.

# Implementation of 5410: OSPI Requirements

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- OSPI must develop approval, monitoring, and appeal process for multidistrict online providers. The criteria and processes shall be adopted by rule by December, 1, 2009.
- Initial approval will be for 4 years.
- Grandfathering: Multidistrict online providers either already approved by the DLC or accredited by NAAS are exempt from approval process until August 31, 2012.

# Implementation of 5410: OSPI Requirements

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- OSPI shall make first round of approval decisions by April, 1, 2010; thereafter, decisions must be made by November 1 of each year.
- OSPI shall establish Online Learning Advisory Committee.
- OSPI shall create an Office of Online Learning:
  - ▣ Staffed by former DLC staff.
  - ▣ \$700,000 annual appropriation.

# Implementation of 5410: OSPI Requirements

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## Tasks of the Office of Online Learning

- Develop and maintain a Web site that provides objective information regarding online learning.
- Develop model agreements with approved multidistrict online providers that provide a template for districts interested in contracting with these entities.
- In collaboration with ESDs:
  - ▣ Provide TA and support to districts.
  - ▣ Provide online tools for students, teachers, others.

# Implementation of 5410: OSPI Requirements

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## Tasks of the Office of Online Learning, continued

- Develop model policies and procedures for districts.
- Modify the standards for course reporting to include designation of online courses in CEDARS.
- Submit annual report to State Board of Education, the Legislature, and the Governor.
  - ▣ Demographics.
  - ▣ Course enrollment data.
  - ▣ Course completion data and passing rates.
  - ▣ Outcomes of course/provider approval reviews.

# Implementation of 5410: School District Requirements—Policy

By August 31, 2010, districts must adopt policies and procedures regarding student access to online courses and online learning programs.

- Policy must cover broad range of online learning issues.
- Policies must be submitted to OSPI by September 15, 2010.
- OSPI must submit summarizing report on policies to the Legislature by December 1, 2010.

# Implementation of 5410: School District Requirements—Funding

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- Beginning with the 2011–12 school year, school districts may claim BEA for students enrolled in online courses or programs only if the online courses or programs are:
  - ▣ Offered by an OSPI-approved multidistrict online provider.
  - ▣ Offered by the district itself to its own students and fewer than 10 percent of out-of-district students enrolling in the program are under the “choice” law.
  - ▣ Offered by a regional provider operating under an inter-district cooperative agreement.
- ALE requirements still apply.