

HB 1946-S - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Declares an intent to study and implement the legislature's findings regarding how the state's public institutions of higher education can share core resources in instructional, including library, resources, student services, and administrative information technology resources, user help desk services, faculty professional development, and more. The study will examine how public institutions of higher education can pursue a strategy of implementing single, shared, statewide commonly needed standards-based software, web hosting and support service solutions that are cost-effective, easily integrated, user-friendly, flexible, and constantly improving.

Encourages all institutions of higher education to use common online learning technologies including existing learning management and web conferencing systems currently managed and governed by the state board for community and technical colleges and to share professional development materials and activities related to effective use of these tools.

Requires the higher education coordinating board to: (1) Convene a higher education technology transformation task force to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of education relative to the strategic and operational use of technology in public education; and

(2) Subject to funds for this specific purpose, engage an independent expert to conduct an independent technical analysis of the findings of the comprehensive technology audits outlined in section 3 (4)(e) of the act.