

# SB3284



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3284

Introduced 2/3/2026, by Sen. Ram Villivalam

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.56

Amends the School Code. Allows the school board of a school district to use an adopted and verified program for e-learning days district-wide that permits student instruction to be received electronically while students are not physically present on an election day because a school was selected to be a polling place (rather than adopt a research-based program for e-learning days district-wide that shall permit student instruction to be received electronically while students are not physically present because a school was selected to be a polling place). Provides that e-learning days used for this purpose may not be counted in lieu of the district's scheduled emergency days.

LRB104 18488 LNS 31930 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 10-20.56 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.56)

7 Sec. 10-20.56. E-learning days.

8 (a) The State Board of Education shall establish and  
9 maintain, for implementation in school districts, a program  
10 for use of electronic-learning (e-learning) days, as described  
11 in this Section. School districts may utilize a program  
12 approved under this Section for use during remote learning  
13 days and blended remote learning days under Section 10-30 or  
14 34-18.66.

15 (b) The school board of a school district may, by  
16 resolution, adopt a research-based program or research-based  
17 programs for e-learning days district-wide that shall permit  
18 student instruction to be received electronically while  
19 students are not physically present in lieu of the district's  
20 scheduled emergency days as required by Section 10-19 of this  
21 Code ~~or because a school was selected to be a polling place~~  
22 ~~under Section 11-4.1 of the Election Code.~~ The research-based  
23 program or programs may not exceed the minimum number of

1 emergency days in the approved school calendar and must be  
2 verified annually by the regional office of education or  
3 intermediate service center for the school district before the  
4 implementation of any e-learning days in that school year to  
5 ensure access for all students. The regional office of  
6 education or intermediate service center shall ensure that the  
7 specific needs of all students are met, including special  
8 education students and English learners, and that all mandates  
9 are still met using the proposed research-based program. The  
10 e-learning program may utilize the Internet, telephones,  
11 texts, chat rooms, or other similar means of electronic  
12 communication for instruction and interaction between teachers  
13 and students that meet the needs of all learners. The  
14 e-learning program shall address the school district's  
15 responsibility to ensure that all teachers and staff who may  
16 be involved in the provision of e-learning have access to any  
17 and all hardware and software that may be required for the  
18 program. If a proposed program does not address this  
19 responsibility, the school district must propose an alternate  
20 program.

21 (b-5) The school board of a school district may use an  
22 adopted and verified program for e-learning days district-wide  
23 that permits student instruction to be received electronically  
24 while students are not physically present on an election day  
25 because a school was selected to be a polling place under  
26 Section 11-4.1 of the Election Code. E-learning days used for

1 this purpose may not be counted in lieu of the district's  
2 scheduled emergency days as required by Section 10-19 of this  
3 Code.

4 (c) Before its adoption by a school board, the school  
5 board must hold a public hearing on a school district's  
6 initial proposal for an e-learning program or for renewal of  
7 such a program, at a regular or special meeting of the school  
8 board, in which the terms of the proposal must be  
9 substantially presented and an opportunity for allowing public  
10 comments must be provided. Notice of such public hearing must  
11 be provided at least 10 days prior to the hearing by:

12 (1) publication in a newspaper of general circulation  
13 in the school district;

14 (2) written or electronic notice designed to reach the  
15 parents or guardians of all students enrolled in the  
16 school district; and

17 (3) written or electronic notice designed to reach any  
18 exclusive collective bargaining representatives of school  
19 district employees and all those employees not in a  
20 collective bargaining unit.

21 (d) The regional office of education or intermediate  
22 service center for the school district must timely verify that  
23 a proposal for an e-learning program has met the requirements  
24 specified in this Section and that the proposal contains  
25 provisions designed to reasonably and practicably accomplish  
26 the following:

1           (1) to ensure and verify at least 5 clock hours of  
2 instruction or school work, as required under Section  
3 10-19.05, for each student participating in an e-learning  
4 day;

5           (2) to ensure access from home or other appropriate  
6 remote facility for all students participating, including  
7 computers, the Internet, and other forms of electronic  
8 communication that must be utilized in the proposed  
9 program;

10          (2.5) to ensure that non-electronic materials are made  
11 available to students participating in the program who do  
12 not have access to the required technology or to  
13 participating teachers or students who are prevented from  
14 accessing the required technology;

15          (3) to ensure appropriate learning opportunities for  
16 students with special needs;

17          (4) to monitor and verify each student's electronic  
18 participation;

19          (5) to address the extent to which student  
20 participation is within the student's control as to the  
21 time, pace, and means of learning;

22          (6) to provide effective notice to students and their  
23 parents or guardians of the use of particular days for  
24 e-learning;

25          (7) to provide staff and students with adequate  
26 training for e-learning days' participation;

1           (8) to ensure an opportunity for any collective  
2 bargaining negotiations with representatives of the school  
3 district's employees that would be legally required,  
4 including all classifications of school district employees  
5 who are represented by collective bargaining agreements  
6 and who would be affected in the event of an e-learning  
7 day;

8           (9) to review and revise the program as implemented to  
9 address difficulties confronted; and

10          (10) to ensure that the protocol regarding general  
11 expectations and responsibilities of the program is  
12 communicated to teachers, staff, and students at least 30  
13 days prior to utilizing an e-learning day in a school  
14 year.

15          The school board's approval of a school district's initial  
16 e-learning program and renewal of the e-learning program shall  
17 be for a term of 3 school years, beginning with the first  
18 school year in which the program was approved and verified by  
19 the regional office of education or intermediate service  
20 center for the school district.

21          (d-5) A school district shall pay to its contractors who  
22 provide educational support services to the district,  
23 including, but not limited to, custodial, transportation, or  
24 food service providers, their daily, regular rate of pay or  
25 billings rendered for any e-learning day that is used because  
26 a school was selected to be a polling place under Section

1 11-4.1 of the Election Code, except that this requirement does  
2 not apply to contractors who are paid under contracts that are  
3 entered into, amended, or renewed on or after March 15, 2022 or  
4 to contracts that otherwise address compensation for such  
5 e-learning days.

6 (d-10) A school district shall pay to its employees who  
7 provide educational support services to the district,  
8 including, but not limited to, custodial employees, building  
9 maintenance employees, transportation employees, food service  
10 providers, classroom assistants, or administrative staff,  
11 their daily, regular rate of pay and benefits rendered for any  
12 school closure or e-learning day if the closure precludes them  
13 from performing their regularly scheduled duties and the  
14 employee would have reported for work but for the closure,  
15 except this requirement does not apply if the day is  
16 rescheduled and the employee will be paid their daily, regular  
17 rate of pay and benefits for the rescheduled day when services  
18 are rendered.

19 (d-15) A school district shall make full payment that  
20 would have otherwise been paid to its contractors who provide  
21 educational support services to the district, including, but  
22 not limited to, custodial, building maintenance,  
23 transportation, food service providers, classroom assistants,  
24 or administrative staff, their daily, regular rate of pay and  
25 benefits rendered for any school closure or e-learning day if  
26 any closure precludes them from performing their regularly

1 scheduled duties and employees would have reported for work  
2 but for the closure. The employees who provide the support  
3 services covered by such contracts shall be paid their daily  
4 bid package rates and benefits as defined by their local  
5 operating agreements or collective bargaining agreements,  
6 except this requirement does not apply if the day is  
7 rescheduled and the employee will be paid their daily, regular  
8 rate of pay and benefits for the rescheduled day when services  
9 are rendered.

10 (d-20) A school district shall make full payment or  
11 reimbursement to an employee or contractor as specified in  
12 subsection (d-10) or (d-15) of this Section for any school  
13 closure or e-learning day in the 2021-2022 school year that  
14 occurred prior to the effective date of this amendatory Act of  
15 the 102nd General Assembly if the employee or contractor did  
16 not receive pay or was required to use earned paid time off,  
17 except this requirement does not apply if the day is  
18 rescheduled and the employee will be paid their daily, regular  
19 rate of pay and benefits for the rescheduled day when services  
20 are rendered.

21 (e) The State Board of Education may adopt rules  
22 consistent with the provision of this Section.

23 (f) For purposes of subsections (d-10), (d-15), and (d-20)  
24 of this Section:

25 "Employee" means anyone employed by a school district on  
26 or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd

1 General Assembly.

2 "School district" includes charter schools established  
3 under Article 27A of this Code, but does not include the  
4 Department of Juvenile Justice School District.

5 (Source: P.A. 102-584, eff. 6-1-22; 102-697, eff. 4-5-22;  
6 103-780, eff. 8-2-24.)