

- (2) STUDENTS WITH DIVERSE RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS;
- (3) STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES;
- (4) STUDENTS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY;
- (5) STUDENTS WHO HAVE DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL; AND
- (6) ACADEMICALLY TALENTED STUDENTS.

(F) "TECHNOLOGY" MEANS THE LATEST STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- (1) CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEMS;
- (2) EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING;
- (3) CABLE TELEVISION;
- (4) SATELLITE;
- (5) COPPER AND FIBER OPTIC TRANSMISSION;
- (6) COMPUTER;
- (7) VIDEO AND AUDIO LASER AND CD ROM DISCS; AND
- (8) VIDEO AND AUDIO TAPES OR OTHER TECHNOLOGIES.

7-702.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

(1) TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS CAN PROPEL THE STATE'S SCHOOL SYSTEMS INTO IMMEDIATE AND DRAMATIC REFORM, WITHOUT WHICH THE STATE WILL NOT MEET THE VERY AMBITIOUS NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS BY THE TARGET YEAR 2000;

(2) CREATIVE USES OF TECHNOLOGY CAN RESHAPE THE STATE'S OUTDATED METHOD OF PROVIDING EDUCATION AND EMPOWER TEACHERS TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE STUDENTS CAN BE CHALLENGED THROUGH RIGOROUS, RICH CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION AT A PACE THAT SUITS THE LEARNING STYLE OF EACH INDIVIDUAL STUDENT;

(3) THE ACQUISITION AND USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION THROUGHOUT THE STATE HAS BEEN INHIBITED BY:

(I) THE LIMITED EXPOSURE OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS TO THE POWER OF TECHNOLOGY AS A COST-EFFECTIVE TOOL TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT;

(II) THE INABILITY OF THE STATE AND LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES TO INVEST IN AND SUPPORT NEEDED TECHNOLOGIES;