

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Education to which was referred Senate Bill No. 284
3 entitled “An act relating to the use of electronic devices and digital and online
4 products in schools” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. CELL PHONE USE IN SCHOOLS; MODEL POLICY

8 (a) On or before December 31, 2024, the Secretary of Education shall
9 develop a model policy regarding the use of cell phones and other personal
10 electronic devices in schools. The model policy shall address, at a minimum,
11 the following:

12 (1) the specific circumstances or time periods during which cell phone
13 or personal electronic device use is permitted;

14 (2) the specific circumstances or time periods during which cell phone
15 or personal electronic device use is prohibited;

16 (3) acceptable locations for cell phone and personal electronic device
17 storage during times when their use is prohibited;

18 (4) consequences for violation of the model policy, including options for
19 educators and staff to collect a cell phone or personal electronic device if a
20 student is found violating the policy; and

1 (5) a process for parents or guardians to get messages to students during
2 times when cell phone or personal electronic device use is prohibited.

3 (b) On or before January 15, 2026, the Agency of Education shall
4 submit a written report to the Senate and House Committees on Education
5 regarding the prevalence and substance of cell phone use policies adopted by
6 school districts after the development of the Agency’s model policy pursuant
7 to subsection (a) of this section. The report shall include the following:

8 (1) information on how many school districts have adopted cell phone or
9 personal electronic device use policies and whether and how those policies
10 differ from the Agency’s model policy;

11 (2) information on how many school districts do not have a cell phone
12 or personal electronic device use policy and any information as to why such a
13 policy has not been adopted at the time of the report; and

14 (3) recommendations for further legislative action regarding cell phone
15 or personal electronic device use in schools.

16 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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2 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE