

By Senator Burgess

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to use of wireless communications
3 devices in schools; requiring the Commissioner of
4 Education to coordinate with school districts selected
5 by the Department of Education to implement a policy
6 for a specified school year prohibiting the use of
7 cell phones while on school grounds or engaged in
8 certain activities off school grounds; requiring the
9 department to provide a report to the Legislature
10 before a specified date; providing requirements for
11 the report; requiring that the report include a model
12 policy that school districts and charter schools may
13 adopt; requiring that the report and model policy
14 address the authorized use of cell phones and
15 electronic devices during the school day by certain
16 students; requiring that the report include specified
17 student code of conduct provisions; providing an
18 effective date.

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20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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22 Section 1. (1) The Commissioner of Education shall
23 coordinate with six districts selected by the Department of
24 Education which represent two small, two medium, and two large
25 counties that currently, or will in the 2025-2026 school year,
26 implement a policy that prohibits the use of cell phones and
27 other personal electronic devices by students during the entire
28 school day, while on school grounds, or while engaged in school
29 activities off school grounds during the school day. The

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30 department shall provide a report to the President of the Senate
31 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives before December
32 1, 2026, summarizing the effect of each district policy on
33 student achievement and behavior. The report must also include a
34 model policy that school districts and charter schools may
35 adopt.

36 (2) The report and model policy must address the authorized
37 use of cell phones or other electronic devices during the school
38 day by students:

39 (a) With disabilities or who are English Language Learners
40 who may need such electronic devices to access curriculum or
41 other required activities.

42 (b) When necessary for health reasons, for emergency
43 medical issues, or for natural or man-made disasters.

44 (c) On school buses, before or after school hours.

45 (d) Engaged in extracurricular activities outside of the
46 school day.

47 (3) The report must also include student code of conduct
48 provisions for violations of the policy restricting the use of
49 cell phones and other electronic devices, including, but not
50 limited to, which:

51 (a) Constitutes illegal behavior and may result in a
52 referral to law enforcement.

53 (b) Facilitates bullying, harassing, or threatening other
54 students.

55 (c) Facilitates cheating or otherwise violating a school's
56 policy for academic integrity.

57 (d) Captures or displays any picture or video of any
58 student during a medical issue or engaged in misconduct.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.