

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 1276

By: Caldwell (Chad), Lowe
(Dick), Moore, and Burns of
the House

3
4 and

5 Seifried of the Senate

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7 An Act relating to schools; requiring district boards
8 of education to adopt a policy prohibiting student
9 cell phone and personal electronic device use under
10 certain circumstances; requiring exceptions for
11 emergencies; allowing board approval to opt out of
prohibition; requiring annual approval of alternative
policies; defining terms; providing for codification;
providing an effective date; and declaring an
emergency.

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-162 of Title 70, unless there
17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 A. Before the start of the 2025-2026 school year, each school
19 district board of education shall adopt a policy to prohibit the use
20 of cell phones and personal electronic devices by students enrolled
21 in the district during the entirety of the school day and while
22 present on school grounds.

23 B. District policies described in subsection A of this section
24 shall incorporate provisions for emergency use including, but not

1 limited to, use to support medical issues documented by a licensed
2 medical professional.

3 C. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, a school
4 district board of education may vote to adopt a policy allowing
5 student cell phone or personal electronic device usage during the
6 school day. Any such policy shall be reviewed and approved by the
7 district board on an annual basis.

8 D. For purposes of this section:

9 1. "Cell phone" means a portable wireless telephone device that
10 is designed to send or receive transmissions through a cellular
11 radiotelephone service;

12 2. "Personal electronic device" means any personal device
13 capable of connecting to a smart phone, the Internet, a cellular or
14 Wi-Fi network, or directly connecting to another similar device.
15 Personal electronic devices include, but are not limited to, smart
16 watches, smart headphones, laptops, tablets, and smart glasses.
17 Personal electronic devices shall not include devices that are
18 school-issued or school-approved and specifically limited for use in
19 classroom instruction; and

20 3. "School day" means the entirety of the day, from the first
21 bell indicating the beginning of classroom instruction through the
22 final bell indicating the end of classroom instruction.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

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1 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
2 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

5 Passed the House of Representatives the 13th day of February,
6 2025.

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9 _____
10 Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

11 Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2025.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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