

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 1277

By: Caldwell (Chad) of the
House

3 and

4 Seifried of the Senate

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7 [schools - State Board of Education - grants to
8 incentivize phone-free spaces - application process
9 - codification]
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13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-201 of Title 70, unless there
16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. Subject to the availability of funds, Seven Million Five
18 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$7,500,000.00) shall be allocated by the
19 State Board of Education to provide grants to public middle schools,
20 junior high schools, and high schools to incentivize phone-free
21 spaces for student learning.

22 B. 1. A public school district seeking a grant to establish a
23 phone-free space in a middle school, junior high school, or high
24 school site shall apply to the State Board of Education in the

1 manner and on a form prescribed by the Board. The Board shall
2 prioritize school districts that submit an application by July 1,
3 2025. Any applications received after July 1, 2025, shall be
4 considered on a first come, first served basis.

5 2. After reviewing the applications submitted, the Board shall
6 attempt to select recipients equally from each of the following
7 criteria:

8 a. middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools
9 that each have an average daily membership (ADM) of
10 fewer than five hundred (500) students,

11 b. middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools
12 that each have an ADM of five hundred (500) or more
13 students but fewer than one thousand five hundred
14 (1,500) students, and

15 c. middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools
16 that each have an ADM of one thousand five hundred
17 (1,500) or more students.

18 3. When selecting grant recipients pursuant to this subsection,
19 the Board shall attempt to select a variety of schools which are
20 broadly representative of schools in the state in terms of
21 geographic location and student population.

22 C. The grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be used to
23 purchase devices or equipment in which students enrolled in a grant
24 recipient school site can store their cell phones during the school

1 day. In conjunction with the Office of Management and Enterprise
2 Services, the State Board of Education may negotiate and contract
3 with a vendor to offer a state rate price for devices or equipment
4 to grant recipient school sites.

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

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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10 Passed the Senate the ___ day of _____, 2025.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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