

1 junior high schools, and high schools to incentivize phone-free
2 spaces for student learning.

3 B. 1. A public school district seeking a grant to establish a
4 phone-free space in a middle school, junior high school, or high
5 school site shall apply to the State Board of Education in the
6 manner and on a form prescribed by the Board. The Board shall
7 prioritize school districts that submit an application by July 1,
8 2025. Any applications received after July 1, 2025, shall be
9 considered on a first come, first served basis.

10 2. After reviewing the applications submitted, the Board shall
11 attempt to select recipients equally from each of the following
12 criteria:

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

16 b. middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools,
17 that each have an ADM of five hundred (500) or more
18 students but fewer than one thousand five hundred
19 (1,500) students, and

20 c. middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools,
21 that each have an ADM of one thousand five hundred
22 (1,500) or more students.

23 3. When selecting grant recipients pursuant to this subsection,
24 the Board shall attempt to select a variety of schools which are

1 broadly representative of schools in the state in terms of
2 geographic locations and student populations.

3 C. The grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be used to
4 purchase devices or equipment in which students enrolled in a grant-
5 recipient school site can store their cell phones during the school
6 day. In conjunction with the Office of Management and Enterprise
7 Services, the State Board of Education may negotiate and contract
8 with a vendor to offer a state rate price for devices or equipment
9 to grant recipient school sites.

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

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15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
16 03/04/2025 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.

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