

HB 2251 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/26, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure modifies state law relating to the use of personal electronic devices in schools. It requires district school boards to adopt policies prohibiting the use of students' personal electronic devices while at school or participating in school activities, with exceptions for uses that comply with an individualized education program or a Section 504 plan. The measure makes a non-compliant school district non-standard and subject to penalties or corrective action plans from the Oregon Department of Education.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 The amendment deletes language relating to school grounds, school-sponsored activities, transportation, and bus stops and replaces it with a requirement that policies prohibit use of personal electronic devices from the start of regular instructional hours until the end of regular instructional hours. The amendment also adds an exception for uses ordered by a student's medical provider for the care and treatment of a medical condition.

BACKGROUND:

According to the [National Conference of State Legislatures](#), nine states enacted measures banning cell phone use in schools by the start of the 2024-2025 school year, while 27 states had introduced legislation to do so. In at least 11 states, the executive branch has taken action to ban cell phone use via administrative rule or guidance while four Governors have issued executive orders on the topic.