

SENATE FILE NO. SF0021

Ban on cell phone use in schools.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Schuler and Representative(s)
Brown, L, Clouston and Larson, JT

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; requiring school districts to
2 adopt policies prohibiting students from using cell phones
3 and smart watches in schools as specified; providing
4 exceptions; providing a definition; specifying
5 applicability; and providing for effective dates.

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7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-3-110(a) by creating a new
10 paragraph (xliv) is amended to read:

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12 **21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.**

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14 (a) The board of trustees in each school district
15 shall:

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(xliv) Adopt policies to prohibit students from using cellular telephones and smart watches during instructional time. For purposes of this paragraph, "smart watch" means a wearable computing device that closely resembles a wristwatch or other time keeping device with the capacity to act in place of or as an extension of a person's cellular telephone. "Smart watch" does not include a wearable device that can only tell time, monitor a person's health information or track a person's location. Policies adopted under this paragraph shall not prohibit students from using cellular telephones and smart watches under any of the following circumstances:

(A) In the case of an emergency or in response to a perceived threat of danger;

(B) When an employee of the school district authorizes a student to use a cellular telephone or a smart watch;

(C) When using a cellular telephone or a smart watch is included in a student's individualized

1 education plan or plan developed under section 504 of the
2 Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended;

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4 (D) When a health care provider determines
5 that the use of a cellular telephone or a smart watch is
6 necessary to manage a student's health care.

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8 **Section 2.** Not later than July 1, 2025, each school
9 district board of trustees shall establish policies in
10 accordance with this act.

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12 **Section 3.**

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14 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
15 section, this act is effective July 1, 2025.

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17 (b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective
18 immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a
19 bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of
20 the Wyoming Constitution.

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(END)