

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6411
BILL NUMBER: SB 78

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 18, 2026
BILL AMENDED: Feb 18, 2026

SUBJECT: Wireless Communication Device Policy.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Raatz
FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Teshka

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill amends definitions, requirements, restrictions, and exceptions regarding wireless communication device policies adopted and implemented by school corporations and charter schools. The bill also requires the Department of Education to publish model policy language and implementation guidance. It provides that, with exceptions, a school corporation, a school maintained by a school corporation, and a charter school, including school personnel, are immune from civil liability for any actions taken in good faith to comply with the school's wireless communication device policy.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The Department of Education will experience a minor workload increase to provide the necessary information to public schools. The bill's requirements are within the agency's routine administrative functions and should be able to be implemented with no additional appropriations, assuming near customary agency staffing and resource levels.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Public schools that do not currently meet the bill's provisions will experience a minor workload increase to update their wireless communication device policy. Public schools that elect to incorporate a secure storage policy may experience an expenditure increase if they provide the storage device. Any impact to expenditures is dependent on local action. [Devices available to schools to store student cellphones are estimated to cost between \$15 to \$30 per storage device.]

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Public schools.

Information Sources:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/business/consumer/schools-spend-millions-yondr-pouches-store-cellphones-rcna230454>

<https://nugerm.com/shop/>

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