

---

## SENATE BILL No. 78

AM007802 has been incorporated into introduced printing.

---

**Synopsis:** Wireless communication device policy.

---

M  
e  
r  
g  
e  
d

2026

IN 78—LS 6411/DI 152



DOCUMENT HAS NOT BEEN CHECKED FOR ACCURACY

Introduced

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 78

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 20-26-5-40.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.24-2024,  
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 40.7. (a) As used in this section, ~~"instructional~~  
4 ~~time" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-30-2-1.~~ **"school day" means**  
5 **the entirety of the time a student is present on school property for**  
6 **a student instructional day (as defined in IC 20-30-2-2).**  
7 (b) As used in this section, "wireless communication device"  
8 means any portable wireless device that has the capability to provide  
9 voice, messaging, or other data communication between two (2) or  
10 more parties, including a:  
11 (1) cellular telephone;  
12 (2) tablet computer;  
13 (3) laptop computer; ~~or~~  
14 (4) gaming device; ~~or~~  
15 **(5) smartwatch that is connected to a cellular telephone, a**

2026

IN 78—LS 6411/DI 152



DOCUMENT HAS NOT BEEN CHECKED FOR ACCURACY

M  
e  
r  
g  
e  
d

cell tower, or the Internet.

(c) **Except as provided in subsection (d)**, each school corporation and charter school shall adopt and implement a wireless communication device policy that:

(1) except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3), ~~and subsection (d)~~, prohibits a student from using a wireless communication device during ~~instructional time~~; **the school day**;

(2) authorizes a teacher to allow a student to use a wireless communication device for educational purposes during ~~instructional time~~; and

(3) ~~permits a student to use a wireless communication device in the event of an emergency or to manage the student's health care.~~

**(2) requires teacher directed use of a wireless communication device for educational purposes during the school day to occur only on school supplied wireless communication devices; and**

**(3) provides that a student's wireless communication device:**

**(A) must be stored in the student's locker or backpack throughout the school day; and**

**(B) may, at the school's discretion, be used during passing periods only.**

(d) The policy adopted and implemented under subsection (c) may not prohibit a student from using a wireless communication device during ~~instructional time~~ **the school day** if the use of the wireless communication device is: ~~included in the student's~~

(1) ~~included in the student's~~ individualized education program; ~~or~~

(2) ~~included in the student's~~ plan developed under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794;

**(3) necessary for the management of a documented medical condition pursuant to a physician's directive;**

**(4) authorized by the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, during an emergency; or**

**(5) necessary for language translation to ensure access for multi-lingual learners, prioritizing school-managed wireless communication devices or applications where available.**

(e) Each school corporation and charter school shall publish on its website the wireless communication device policy established under subsection (c).

**(f) The department shall publish model policy language and implementation guidance consistent with this section.**



M  
e  
r  
g  
e  
d

