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## SENATE BILL No. 78

Proposed Changes to introduced printing by AM007805

### DIGEST OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Wireless communication device policy. Removes a provision concerning the return of wireless communication devices upon a student's dismissal at the end of the school day. Permits a secure storage policy under which wireless communication devices may be brought to school, but must be stored away and inaccessible to a student throughout the school day, except for passing periods. Provides that a wireless communication device policy implemented by each school corporation and charter school may not prohibit a student from using a wireless communication device during the school day if the use of the device is necessary for the management of a documented medical condition pursuant to an order provided by a health care provider who is licensed in Indiana.

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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).

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- (1) cellular telephone;
- (2) tablet computer;
- (3) laptop computer; **or**
- (4) gaming device; **or**

**(5) smartwatch that is connected to a cellular telephone, a cell tower, or the Internet.**

(1) except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) and subsection (d), subdivision [s] (2)f and (3)(C)], prohibits a student from using or possessing [ ] 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

(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) mandates one (1) of the following policies:**

(A) A no device policy under which students are not permitted to bring wireless communication devices to school.

**(B)** A secure storage policy under which wireless communication devices may be brought to school, but must be ~~←~~

→ (i) stored [ away ] and inaccessible [ to a student ] throughout the school day ← and

(ii) returned to the student upon dismissal at the end of the school day.

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(C) A secure storage policy under which wireless communication devices may be brought to school, but must be stored away and inaccessible to a student throughout the school day, except for passing periods.]



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

10 (3) necessary for the management of a documented medical  
11 condition pursuant to ~~a physician's directive~~ [an order  
12 provided by a health care provider who is licensed in  
13 Indiana];

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

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