

Legislative Analysis



REQUIRE SCHOOLS TO IMPLEMENT WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE POLICY

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4141 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Mark A. Tisdell
Committee: Education and Workforce
Complete to 4-23-25

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4141 would amend the Revised School Code to require the board of a school district or the board of a public school academy (PSA, also commonly referred to as a charter school) to implement a *wireless communications device* policy that governs device use on *school grounds*.

Wireless communications device would mean an electronic device capable of text messaging, voice communication, entertainment, navigation, accessing the internet, or producing email.

School grounds would mean a building, playing field, or property used for functions and events sponsored by a school, but would not include a building used primarily for adult education or college extension courses.

For students in grades kindergarten through 5, the policy would have to prohibit wireless communications device possession on school grounds.

For students in grades 6 through 8, the policy would have to prohibit students from using a wireless communications device during the following times, as applicable:

- Instructional time.
- Breaks between instructional time.
- Lunch.
- Recess.

For students enrolled in grades 9 through 12, the policy would have to prohibit students from using a wireless communications device during instructional time.

In addition to the above required limitations, boards could implement additional restrictions regarding the use of a wireless communications device.

Finally, the bill would repeal section 1303 of the Revised School Code, which allows the board of school district or PSA to adopt and implement its own local policy concerning whether or not a student can carry a pocket pager, electronic communication device, or other personal communication device in school.

MCL 380.1303 (repeal) and proposed MCL 380.1303a

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state and could create costs for local school districts and public school academies. Districts and PSAs could incur costs to develop and implement cell phone policies, but these costs would likely be absorbed using existing staff time.

Legislative Analyst: Josh Roesner
Fiscal Analysts: Jacqueline Mullen
Noel Benson

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