

SB 206-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

03/13/2025 0742s

5Jun2025... 2249h

2025 SESSION

25-1036

02/05

SENATE BILL **206-FN**

AN ACT requiring school districts and chartered public schools to adopt policies establishing a cell phone-free education.

SPONSORS: Sen. Ricciardi, Dist 9; Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Fenton, Dist 10; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23

COMMITTEE: Education

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requiring school districts and chartered public schools to adopt policies establishing a cell phone-free education.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five*

AN ACT requiring school districts and chartered public schools to adopt policies establishing a cell phone-free education.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 1 New Paragraph; Cell Phone Use Policy. Amend RSA 189:1-a by inserting after paragraph IV  
2 the following new paragraph:

3 V. School boards and the board of trustees of chartered public schools shall develop and  
4 adopt a policy governing the use of student cell phones and other personal electronic communication  
5 devices in schools. Such policy shall prohibit all personal communication device use by students  
6 from when the first bell rings to start instructional time until the dismissal bell rings to end the  
7 academic school day, with approved exceptions determined by the superintendent or their designee  
8 with respect to student medical, disability, or language proficiency need. Such policy shall be  
9 developed in collaboration with school parents and teachers and shall be reviewed annually. School  
10 district and chartered public school policies shall not prohibit students with medical needs, such as  
11 insulin pumps and glucose sensors, or disabilities from using a device to support their learning as  
12 identified by their individualized education program (IEP), plan developed under Section 504 of the  
13 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. section 794, or when required to support emergent multilingual  
14 students with appropriate language access programs and services pursuant to Title VI of the Civil  
15 Rights Act of 1964.

16 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

LBA  
25-1036  
4/16/25

**SB 206-FN- FISCAL NOTE**  
AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE (AMENDMENT #2025-0742s)

AN ACT requiring public schools to adopt policies to limit the use of cell phones by students.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

| <b>Estimated Political Subdivision Impact</b> |                |                |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | <b>FY 2025</b> | <b>FY 2026</b> | <b>FY 2027</b> | <b>FY 2028</b> |
| <b>Local Revenue</b>                          | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            |
| <b>Local Expenditures</b>                     | \$0            | Indeterminable |                |                |

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill, assumed to be effective for the 2025-2026 school year, requires public schools to adopt policies to limit the use of smartphones by students. Costs associated with this bill, if any, are indeterminable and would vary from district to district.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of Education