

HOUSE BILL 755

F1

6lr1886

By: Delegate Wolek

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education – Student Personal Electronic Device Use Policy –**
3 **Establishment**
4 **(Phones Away for the School Day Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to develop and implement,
6 not later than a certain school year, a policy prohibiting the use of a personal
7 electronic device by a student during school day hours except under certain
8 circumstances; and generally relating to county boards of education and a student
9 personal electronic device use policy.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Education
12 Section 7-137
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Education**

18 **7-137.**

19 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
20 **INDICATED.**

21 **(2) (I) “PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE” MEANS ANY PORTABLE**
22 **ELECTRONIC DEVICE CARRIED OR TRANSPORTED BY A STUDENT TO RECEIVE, SEND,**
23 **OR RECORD VOICE, IMAGE, OR TEXT CONTENT.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



10 (B) NOT LATER THAN THE 2026–2027 SCHOOL YEAR, EACH COUNTY BOARD
11 SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A POLICY TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF PERSONAL
12 ELECTRONIC DEVICES BY STUDENTS DURING SCHOOL DAY HOURS.

13 (c) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (d) OF THIS SECTION, THE
14 POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

19 (D) THE POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT PROHIBIT A
20 STUDENT FROM USING A PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE FOR ANY PURPOSE
21 DOCUMENTED IN THE STUDENT'S INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM OR 504
22 PLAN.

23 (E) EACH SCHOOL SHALL DESIGNATE ONE OR MORE TELEPHONES IN THE
24 SCHOOL TO BE USED BY STUDENTS TO CONTACT A STUDENT'S PARENT OR LEGAL
25 GUARDIAN OR OTHER RESPONSIBLE ADULT DURING SCHOOL DAY HOURS IF
26 NECESSARY.

27 (F) (1) A POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE
28 APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY MEASURES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE POLICY.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
33 1, 2026.

