



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 29, 2025

**SB 29 – Education – Phone-Free Schools Pilot Program - Established**

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

SB 29 establishes the Phone-Free Schools Pilot Program in Carroll and Montgomery counties. This program will collect data to determine the effect that of student cell phone use during the school day. The data will focus on academic achievement, student classroom engagement, student social interactions, and student behavior and discipline. Carroll and Montgomery counties will choose one middle school and one high school in the county to participate in the phone-free program.

Instruction time with limited distractions is extremely important to student success, not only academically but also socially. This crucial study could provide data highlighting the impact of student phone use during the school day.

There is no opposition from the local school systems involved. I humbly ask for a favorable report on SB 29.