

Written Testimony for **HB 57**: County Boards of Education - Student Cellular Phone Use Policy - Establishment - Please **VOTE YES** on this bill.

Dear Ways & Means Committee:

This bill reads: "...Requiring each county board of education to develop and implement a policy limiting the use of a cellular phone by a student during instructional time during the school day; prohibiting the policy from limiting a student's use of a cellular phone for any purpose documented in the student's individual education program, to monitor or address a student's documented health issue, or when directed by an educator or administrator for educational purposes; and requiring the policy to include appropriate disciplinary measures..."

I love this legislation!!

I know there are multiple Student Cell Phone Use policy bills this legislative session. I agree with any and all of the policies that keep cell phones out of students' hands while they are in school, unless they are being used by students with IEPs or 504s. Since most students are issued Chromebooks, they have no reason to have a cell phone while they are attending school. Cell phones do not enhance a student's learning (with the exception of the students with IEPs or 504s). Quite the opposite, cell phones are a huge distraction that our children do not need while they are attempting to learn. Just look at the vast number of major motor vehicle accidents that occur because a driver is on their cell phone while driving. This shows you that attempting to multi-task while using a cell phone is not advisable and would be an enormous detriment to our students' learning capability.

We need to return our schools to academics first and foremost, and this is a great start to achieving that goal.

Thank you.

Trudy Tibbals
A Very Concerned Mother and Maryland resident