

From: Kristen Mosbaek km@kristenmosbaek.com
Subject: SB928 — Maryland Phone-Free Schools Act
Date: March 2, 2026 at 2:59 PM
To: Senate EEE committee



SB928 — Maryland Phone-Free Schools Act

Written testimony (favorable)
Submitted by: Kristen Mosbaek

March 2, 2026

Dear Members of the **Senate EEE committee**,

My name is Kristen Mosbaek and I am a substitute teacher and a resident of Montgomery County (Bethesda), Maryland. I was an active PTA member during my son's 13 years in Montgomery County Public Schools. My testimony is provided to support Senator Harris's Maryland Phone-Free Schools Act (SB928). This bill will ensure that all such devices are inaccessible to students during the entire school day.

As a K-12 substitute teacher, I can tell you that telling students to put their phone away distracts from my lesson, shames students, and takes up valuable instructional time. It's hard enough to take attendance and teach lessons when you don't know the students. I used to be able to use "phone time" as an incentive for students to finish their assignments. Not now. For the past four years, cell phone use has led to reducing students' self-control. They now have a hard time being quiet long enough for me to explain a lesson and take attendance.

On NPR, I heard a school librarian say that when his school removed phones from the classroom, three times as many students checked out books. Now, that's progress. Passing bill SB928 is an opportunity to set our students up for success.

~Kristen Mosbaek
Montgomery County resident & teacher