



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## HB 25-1135: COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN SCHOOLS

#### Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Lukens; Bradfield

Sen. Marchman; Frizell

#### Fiscal Analyst:

Josh Abram, 303-866-3561

josh.abram@coleg.gov

**Bill Outcome:** Signed into Law

**Drafting number:** LLS 25-0491

**Version:** Final Fiscal Note

**Date:** May 19, 2025

**Fiscal note status:** The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill requires that public school districts and the Charter School Institute adopt a policy concerning student use of cell phones during school days.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- State Expenditure
- School Districts

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

## Summary of Legislation

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No later than July 1, 2026, the bill requires that school districts and the Charter School Institute (CSI) adopt and implement a policy concerning cell phone use and possession during the school day. Policies must not prohibit students from possessing or using a cell phone if it is necessary for compliance with disability standards, special education programs, or to monitor a medical condition. These adopted policies must be posted on the website of the local education provider or charter school. The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) must assemble resources and research for developing policies in schools and make those publicly available by January 2026.

## State Expenditure

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The Charter School Institute is an independent agency in the CDE that authorizes and oversees some charter schools. The bill increases workload for the CSI to conduct public outreach and adopt and implement a cell phone policy across the charter schools under its supervision. This additional workload does not require new appropriations.

## School District

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The bill increases workload for school districts to conduct public outreach, provide an opportunity for public input, and to craft and implement a cell phone policy for students. The bill increases workload for any public school district that has not adopted a cell phone policy.

## Effective Date

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The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 1, 2025, and takes effect on August 6, 2025, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

## State and Local Government Contacts

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Education	School District
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