



HOUSE BILL 87: Cell Phone-Free Education.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Judiciary 3. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	February 25, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. N. Jackson, Biggs, Schietzelt, Eddins	Prepared by:	Drupti Chauhan
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H87-CSRQ-2		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 87 would require governing bodies of public school units to adopt a policy governing the use of cell phones by students during instructional time. The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) would exempt remote charter academies, remote academies, and virtual charter schools participating in the virtual charter school pilot program.*

CURRENT LAW: There is no Statewide statute regarding the use of cell phones by students in public school units.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS for House Bill 87 would require the governing bodies of public school units to adopt a cell phone free education policy which would eliminate or severely restrict student access to cell phones during instructional time. Parents would have to be notified at the beginning of each school of the cell phone free education policy that was adopted by the governing board.

The PCS would exempt remote charter academies, remote academies, and virtual charter school participating in the virtual charter school pilot program from the requirements of the new statute.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would become effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

BACKGROUND: According to data from the North Carolina School Boards Association, approximately 77 local boards of education have adopted a policy on cell phone use by students in schools.

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