

HOUSE BILL 1179

F3

5lr1039

By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County – Board of Education – Student Cellular Phone Policy**

3 **MC 13–25**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Montgomery County Board of Education to establish a
5 policy limiting the use of a cellular phone by a student during instructional time
6 except under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the Montgomery
7 County Board of Education and student cellular phone policy.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 4–147

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Education**

16 **4–147.**

17 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “INSTRUCTIONAL TIME” MEANS ANY TIME DURING**
18 **THE SCHOOL DAY, EXCEPT A STUDENT’S LUNCH PERIOD.**

19 **(B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY.**

20 **(C) THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL DEVELOP**
21 **AND IMPLEMENT A POLICY TO LIMIT THE USE OF CELLULAR PHONES BY STUDENTS**
22 **DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(D) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

(1) PROHIBIT A STUDENT FROM USING A CELLULAR PHONE DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME; AND

(2) REQUIRE A STUDENT TO STORE THE STUDENT'S CELLULAR PHONE IN A SECURE PLACE DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, INCLUDING:

(I) A LOCKER;

(II) A CLOSED BACKPACK; OR

(III) A STORAGE DEVICE.

(E) THE POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT PROHIBIT A STUDENT FROM USING A CELLULAR PHONE:

(1) FOR ANY PURPOSE DOCUMENTED IN THE STUDENT'S INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM;

(2) TO MONITOR OR ADDRESS A HEALTH ISSUE; OR

(3) WHEN DIRECTED BY AN EDUCATOR OR ADMINISTRATOR FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

(F) THE POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY MEASURES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE POLICY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2025.