

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013
4

As Engrossed: H1/23/13

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1015

5 By: Representative Harris
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ESTABLISH
9 POLICIES CONCERNING STUDENT USE OF ELECTRONIC
10 COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES WHILE AT SCHOOL; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO
15 ESTABLISH POLICIES CONCERNING STUDENT USE
16 OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES AT
17 SCHOOL.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-502(b)(3)(C)-(E), concerning the
24 requirements for Department of Education guidelines for student discipline
25 policies for certain offenses, is amended to read as follows:

26 (C) Using, offering for sale, or selling beer, alcoholic
27 beverages, or other illicit drugs by students on school property; and

28 ~~(D) Possession by a student of any paging device, beeper,~~
29 ~~or similar electronic communication device on the school campus, however:~~

30 ~~(i) The policy may provide an exemption for~~
31 ~~possession of such a device by a student who is required to use such a device~~
32 ~~for health or other compelling reasons; and~~

33 ~~(ii) The policy may exempt possession of such a~~
34 ~~device after normal school hours for extracurricular activities; and~~

35 ~~(E)(D)~~ Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or
36 stealing school property by students.



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2 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 5, is amended
3 to add an additional section to read as follows:

4 6-18-515. Use of personal electronic devices.

5 (a) As used in this section, "personal electronic device" means
6 without limitation a:

7 (1) Cellular telephone;

8 (2) Paging device;

9 (3) Beeper;

10 (4) Mobile telephone that offers advanced computing and Internet
11 accessibility;

12 (5) Digital media player;

13 (6) Portable game console;

14 (7) Tablet, notebook, or laptop computer;

15 (8) Digital camera; and

16 (9) Digital video or audio recorder.

17 (b) A school district may establish a written student discipline
18 policy and exemptions concerning the possession and use by a student of a
19 personal electronic device:

20 (1) On school property;

21 (2) At an after-school activity; or

22 (3) At a school-related function.

23 (c) The policy may, without limitation:

24 (1) Allow or restrict the possession and use of a personal
25 electronic device;

26 (2) Allow the use of a personal electronic device in school for
27 instructional purposes at the discretion of a teacher or administrator;

28 (3) Limit the times or locations in which a personal electronic
29 device may be used to make telephone calls, send text messages or e-mails, or
30 engage in other forms of communication;

31 (4) Allow or prohibit the use of any photographic, audio, or
32 video recording capabilities of a personal electronic device while in school;

33 (5) Exempt the possession or use of a personal electronic device
34 by a student who is required to use such a device for health or another
35 compelling reason;

36 (6) Exempt the possession or use of a personal electronic device

1 after normal school hours for extracurricular activities; and
2 (7) Include other relevant provisions deemed appropriate and
3 necessary by the school district.

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/s/Harris