

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB882

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Earley

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Department of Education; model policy on student cell phone use during instructional time.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Education to develop, adopt, and distribute to each school board a model policy whereby public elementary and secondary school students are prohibited from possessing or using personal cell phones or other personal handheld communication devices during instructional time at school. The bill requires the Department, in developing and adopting such model policy, to seek to balance the interests of students' academic achievement, cognitive development, safety, and general well-being and permits the Department to include appropriate exceptions in extraordinary circumstances such as emergency situations or situations involving the need to contact the student's parents. The bill requires each school board to develop and adopt a policy that is consistent with such model policy adopted by the Department.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 117.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Education would require an additional \$10,500 general fund support one time in FY25 to support additional contract wage assistance and support a work group to develop the policies required in the bill.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Education, local school divisions

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None