



- 32           (B) a satellite network; or  
33           (C) any other wireless technology; and  
34       (ii) "Cellphone" includes:  
35           (A) a smartphone;  
36           (B) a feature phone;  
37           (C) a mobile phone;  
38           (D) a satellite phone; or  
39           (E) a personal digital assistant that incorporates capabilities similar to a  
40           smartphone, feature phone, mobile phone, or satellite phone.  
41       (b)(i) "Emerging technology" means any other device that has or will be able to act  
42           in place of or as an extension of an individual's cellphone.  
43           (ii) "Emerging technology" does not include school provided or required devices.  
44       (c) "Smart watch" means a wearable computing device that closely resembles a  
45           wristwatch or other time-keeping device with the capacity to act in place of or as an  
46           extension of an individual's cellphone.  
47       (d) "Smart watch" does not include a wearable device that can only:  
48           (i) tell time;  
49           (ii) monitor an individual's health informatics; or  
50           (iii) track the individual's physical location.  
51       (2) Except as provided in Subsections (3), a student may not use a student's cellphone,  
52           smart watch, or emerging technology at a school during the school day.  
53       (3) An LEA:  
54           (a) shall establish a policy that provides for when a student's use of a student's cellphone,  
55           smart watch, or emerging technology is necessary:  
56           (i) to respond to an imminent threat to the health or safety of an individual;  
57           (ii) for a student's IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan; or  
58           (iii) to address a medical necessity; and  
59           (b) may create additional policies establishing reasonable exceptions to when a student  
60           may use a student's cellphone, smart watch, or emerging technology in a manner the  
61           LEA determines does not interfere with the learning environment at a school.  
62       (4) The state board may create one or more model policies regarding when a student may  
63           use a student's cellphone, smart watch, or emerging technology in a school during the  
64           school day.  
65       (5) Subject to legislative appropriations and in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah

- 66 Administrative Rulemaking Act, the state board shall make rules:
- 67 (a) creating a grant program to assist an LEA with the purchase of equipment for the
- 68 implementation of the this part in secondary schools; and
- 69 (b) establishing the parameters for the grant program described in Subsection (5)(a),
- 70 including:
- 71 (i) an application format;
- 72 (ii) relevant time lines and deadlines;
- 73 (iii) a scoring rubric, including criteria to determine a grant award amount;
- 74 (iv) allowable uses of a grant award, including types of equipment such as magnetic
- 75 locking pouches; and
- 76 (v) any relevant data to evaluate the program that the state board determines is
- 77 necessary.

78 **Section 2. FY 2026 Appropriation.**

79 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July

80 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. These are additions to amounts previously

81 appropriated for fiscal year 2026.

82 **Subsection 2(a) Operating and Capital Budgets**

83 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures

84 Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or

85 accounts indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

86 **Public Education**

87 **ITEM 1 To State Board of Education - State Board and Administrative Operations**

88 **From Public Education Economic Stabilization**

89 **Restricted Account, One-time**

**\$4,850,000**

90 **Schedule of Programs:**

91 **Cellular Device Use Prohibition Grant**

**\$4,850,000**

92 **Section 3. Effective date.**

93 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2025.

5-20-24 1:13 PM