

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
89th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2013

*As Engrossed: H1/23/13*  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 1015

By: Representative Harris

### **For An Act To Be Entitled**

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

### **Subtitle**

TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ESTABLISH POLICIES CONCERNING STUDENT USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES AT SCHOOL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-502(b)(3)(C)-(E), concerning the requirements for Department of Education guidelines for student discipline policies for certain offenses, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

*(1) Cellular telephone;*

*(2) Paging device;*

*(3) Beeper;*

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

*(5) Digital media player;*

*(6) Portable game console;*

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

*(8) Digital camera; and*

*(9) Digital video or audio recorder.*

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

*(1) On school property;*

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

*(3) At a school-related function.*

*(c) The policy may, without limitation:*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*/s/Harris*