

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  
6

7 **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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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO  
16 ESTABLISH POLICIES CONCERNING STUDENT USE  
17 OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES AT  
18 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

**APPROVED: 02/11/2013**