

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2017-038

2 State of Arkansas
3 91st General Assembly
4 Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: H3/14/17 H3/23/17

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2117

5
6 By: Representative Sorvillo

7 Filed with: House Committee on Education
8 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

For An Act To Be Entitled

9
10 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CAMERAS IN CERTAIN CLASSROOMS UPON
11 REQUEST; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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14 TO REQUIRE CAMERAS IN CERTAIN CLASSROOMS
15 UPON REQUEST.

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

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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 41, Subchapter 1, is amended
22 to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 6-41-105. Cameras in classrooms.

24 (a)(1) As used in this section, "nonverbal student" means a student
25 with:

26 (A) Significant cognitive disabilities who is unable to
27 speak; or

28 (B) A physical impairment that prohibits speech.

29 (2) "Nonverbal student" does not include a student who can
30 communicate:

31 (A) In writing;

32 (B) By using technology; or

33 (C) By using sign language.

34 (b) A public school district with a three-quarter average daily
35 membership of at least twenty thousand (20,000) students shall provide a

1 video camera to a public school for use in a classroom that contains a
2 nonverbal student upon request of a:

3 (1) Parent or legal guardian of a nonverbal student who is
4 assigned to the classroom;

5 (2) Member of the board of directors of the public school
6 district; or

7 (3) School employee.

8 (c) A public school that receives a video camera under subsection (b)
9 of this section shall operate and maintain the video camera in the classroom
10 for which the video camera was requested for as long as the request under
11 subsection (b) is made.

12 (d) A video camera placed in a classroom shall be capable of:

13 (1) Covering all areas of the classroom except for:

14 (A) A restroom; or

15 (B) Any other area in the classroom in which a student's
16 clothes are changed; and

17 (2) Recording audio from all areas of the classroom.

18 (e) Before a public school places a video camera in a classroom, the
19 public school shall provide written notice of the placement to:

20 (1) All employees of the public school; and

21 (2) The parent or legal guardian of a student who is assigned to
22 the classroom.

23 (f) A public school shall retain video recorded from a camera placed
24 under this section for at least six (6) months after the date the video was
25 recorded.

26 (g) This section does not:

27 (1) Waive any immunity from liability of a public school
28 district or employee of a public school district; or

29 (2) Create any liability for a cause of action against a public
30 school district or employee of a public school district.

31 (h) A public school district shall not:

32 (1) Allow regular or continual monitoring of video recorded
33 under this section; or

34 (2) Use video recorded under this section for:

35 (A) Teacher evaluations; or

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Referred by the Arkansas House of Representatives

Prepared by: VJF