

Introduced by

Senators Wobbema, Paulson, Van Oosting

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-06 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the mandatory secure storage of a student's personal electronic
3 device during the schoolday; and to provide an appropriation.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Schools - Personal electronic device storage - Secure container.**

- 8 1. As used in this section, "personal electronic device" means an electronic device
9 belonging to a student, which is capable of transmitting voice, text, or data between
10 parties. The term includes a cell phone, tablet or laptop computer, smart watch, and a
11 gaming device.
- 12 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall provide a school with secure containers
13 to store each student's personal electronic device for the duration of a schoolday.
- 14 3. Upon arrival at the school, a student shall:
- 15 a. Turn off the student's personal electronic device.
- 16 b. Place the student's personal electronic device in the secure container in which
17 the personal electronic device must be stored for the schoolday.
- 18 4. A student may maintain possession of the secure container during the schoolday.
- 19 5. At the end of the schoolday, the personal electronic device may be released to the
20 student from the secure container.
- 21 6. A school principal may permit a student to access the student's personal electronic
22 device during the schoolday for a medical reason, if the parent or guardian of the
23 student provides the school principal with documentation certified by a medical

1 provider demonstrating the medical necessity for access to the personal electronic
2 device.

3 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -**

4 **SECURE STORAGE OF A STUDENT'S PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE.** There is
5 appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise
6 appropriated, the sum of \$1,890,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the
7 superintendent of public instruction for the purpose of providing schools with secure containers
8 for the storage of students' personal electronic devices during the schoolday, for the biennium
9 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.