General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 6923

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **4658**

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF SMART DEVICES IN SCHOOLS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 10-233j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) No student in a public school in the state shall possess or use a remotely activated paging device unless such student obtains the written permission of the school principal for such possession and use. The principal shall grant such permission only if the student or his parent or guardian establishes to the satisfaction of the principal that a reasonable basis exists for the possession and use of the device.

(b) A local or regional board of education may restrict the student possession or use of cellular mobile telephones in the schools under its jurisdiction. In determining whether to restrict such possession or use, the local or regional board of education shall consider the special needs of parents and students.

(c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2025, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall adopt a

policy, in addition to any restrictions pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, limiting the use of smart devices in the schools governed by such board of education using the policy guidance developed by the Department of Education. As used in this subsection, "smart device" means a cellular mobile telephone or other wearable or portable technology that can connect to the Internet, collect, process and transmit data, and communicate with other devices and networks.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*July 1, 2025*	10-233j

Statement of Purpose:

To require local and regional boards of education to adopt a policy limiting the use of smart devices by students in school.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]