

Mariah Peric
Scarborough
LD 2052

Dear Members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee,

I am writing in strong support of LD 2052. I am a pediatric nurse, and I want to be clear that I do not take funding from technology companies. I have seen firsthand how industry funding can influence professional development. Technology companies are now sponsoring “continued education” trips for educators to luxurious locations—similar to how pharmaceutical companies have funded training in healthcare. As a healthcare professional, I recognize the potential conflicts of interest and the importance of independent, evidence-based guidance.

In Scarborough, despite multiple requests, school administrators have been unable to provide detailed information on actual screen time by grade or subject. We have repeatedly been told that there is nothing to worry about because Scarborough is “conservative” in its use of technology. Yet this does not align with what my children report coming home from school. As a parent, I am increasingly concerned about the amount of time my children spend on screens and the nature of that screen-based learning.

Without a clear understanding of how technology is being used, it is impossible to evaluate its effectiveness or make meaningful improvements. If we want educational technology to genuinely enhance learning, we must start with a clear, accurate picture of how it is currently being used in our classrooms. LD 2052 is a critical step in providing transparency and ensuring that decisions about technology in education are informed by real data, not assumptions or marketing claims.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mariah Peric
Parent and Pediatric Nurse, Scarborough