

Tyler Despain  
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Esteemed Chairs and Members of the Committee of Appropriations and Financial Affairs:

My name is Tyler Despain, and I am writing to express my strong support for a statewide ban on cell phones in schools. In my 10 years as a technology professional and community educator, I have witnessed firsthand, and reviewed ample research confirming, the increasingly negative impact that smartphone distraction has on students' focus, engagement, and overall academic performance.

A statewide policy would create a more consistent and productive learning environment, free from the constant interruptions that hinder both teaching and learning. By reducing distractions, we give students the opportunity to be more present, more engaged, and ultimately more successful in their academic pursuits. This initiative is a meaningful step toward strengthening student achievement and restoring focus in our classrooms.

I respectfully ask that you give thoughtful consideration to including this important phone policy in the Governor's supplemental budget, as it represents a meaningful step toward strengthening academic achievement and supporting the well-being of our students.

Regards,

Tyler Despain