

House Bill 1044

By: Representatives Ashe of the 46<sup>th</sup>, Jamieson of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Houston of the 166<sup>th</sup> and Porter of the 143<sup>rd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 elementary and secondary education, so as to provide for the exercise of discretion by local  
3 boards of education with regard to prohibiting electronic communication devices in schools;  
4 to delete a provision prohibiting such devices; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and  
9 secondary education, is amended by striking Code Section 20-2-751.3, which is reserved, and  
10 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "20-2-751.3.

12 ~~Reserved.~~ A student code of conduct adopted by a local board of education may, in the  
13 sound discretion of the local board, prohibit the possession of electronic communication  
14 devices by students in school and provide for exceptions to such prohibition and  
15 disciplinary actions for such possession."

16 **SECTION 2.**

17 Said chapter is further amended by striking in its entirety Code Section 20-2-1183, relating  
18 to prohibition of electronic pagers and communication devices, and inserting in lieu thereof  
19 the following:

20 "20-2-1183.

21 ~~(a) No local board of education shall permit any pupil to carry a pocket pager or electronic~~  
22 ~~communication device in school except for health or other unusual reasons approved by~~  
23 ~~the board of education.~~

24 ~~(b) Any student found in violation of the provisions of this Code section be subject to~~  
25 ~~placement in an alternative education program~~ Reserved."

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**SECTION 3.**

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.