

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 98

BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN

STUDENTS: Requests that the state Department of Education study and report relative to the impact of the law banning student possession of telecommunications devices during the instructional day

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the state Department of Education to study the impact of Act No. 313
3 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature, which enacted a ban on student
4 possession of telecommunications devices during the instructional day, and to submit
5 a written report of findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the House
6 Committee on Education not later than May 1, 2026.

7 WHEREAS, Act No. 313 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature enacted a
8 ban on student possession of electronic telecommunications devices during the instructional
9 day; and

10 WHEREAS, this bill passed with strong majorities in both the House and the Senate
11 and was supported by members of the public education academic and advocacy community,
12 including the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Louisiana
13 Federation of Teachers; and

14 WHEREAS, not all in Louisiana were in full agreement with this measure; some
15 expressed concern that this legislation was unnecessary and unadvisable; and

16 WHEREAS, in Vernon Parish, a group of highly engaged students at Rosepine High
17 School drafted a petition to ask the legislature to consider modifying this law; they collected
18 more than four hundred signatures from the high school and surrounding community; and

19 WHEREAS, these students relayed concerns over safety and health and other
20 legitimate issues related to not having access to cell phones during the school day and asked

1 for assistance in revisiting this legislation from their district's state representative, who has
2 great respect for their initiative and believes their voices should be heard; and

3 WHEREAS, the impact of this law, particularly with respect to student performance,
4 merits further study on a statewide level.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
6 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the state Department of Education to
7 study the impact of Act No. 313 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature, which
8 enacted a ban on student possession of telecommunications devices during the instructional
9 day, including but not limited to factors related to student performance that may be
10 attributable to the law.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department submit a written report of
12 findings and conclusions, including its recommendations pertaining to whether this law
13 should remain in effect or be modified, to the House Committee on Education not later than
14 May 1, 2026.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Requests the state Dept. of Education to study the impact of Act No. 313 of the 2024 R.S., which enacted a ban on student possession of telecommunications devices during the instructional day, and to submit a written report to the House Committee on Education by May 1, 2026.