

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB568S1

Patron: Sturtevant

Bill Title: Public elementary and secondary schools; use of school-issued devices for instructional purposes; limitation on instructional screen time permitted; policies and procedures.

Bill Summary: Directs the Department of Education to develop and make available to each school board model policies relating to limiting instructional screen time, as defined in the bill, per school day for students. The bill directs that the model policies shall (i) include procedures for establishing limitations or caps on instructional screen time in each grade level, (ii) not apply to any student who requires more frequent use of a school-issued device pursuant to the student’s individualized education program or Section 504 plan, and (iii) permit teachers to continue using digital and online instruction. The bill provides that any school board may adopt a policy that is consistent with but may be more comprehensive than the model policies. Finally, the bill requires any school board that adopts a policy limiting instructional screen time to post such policy in a prominent and publicly accessible location on its website and to submit to the Department of Education by August 1 of each year a report describing the policy and the implementation of such policy.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: None

Explanation: There is no anticipated state fiscal impact resulting from the provisions of this bill. Any impact to local school divisions is indeterminate.

Fiscal Analysis: The Department of Education can absorb any impact to develop the model policies required by this bill and to collect the required information from local school divisions. Any impact to local school divisions is indeterminate.

Other: None