

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1083

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1343
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 1343, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Education to adopt a policy that bans the use of cell phones and related devices by students during school hours.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Education; Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that cell phone use in schools disrupts student learning, reduces engagement, and impacts overall academic success. Furthermore, excessive screen time limits face-to-face interactions, which are essential for students' social and emotional development. This measure directs the Board of Education to establish a statewide policy prohibiting student use of cell phones and similar devices, such as smartwatches and wireless headphones, during school hours to foster a more productive, inclusive, and distraction-free learning environment.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this

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report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1343, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



