Opposition, Written Only Testimony on Senate Bill 350: Age-Appropriate Device Act
Dr. Brent Yeager, Superintendent, Olathe Public Schools
Senate Education Committee,
March 2, 2026

Chair Erickson and Members of the Committee:

Olathe Public Schools established district policies for the use of electronic devices. Our policy is the result of thoughtful engagement with staff and parents around the curriculum, assessments, and preparation for real world learning and making students college and career ready. Preparation for this learning and work environment is different from earlier times. As a school system we do not want to stop time, nor ignore one of the most exceptional changes in the availability of knowledge and learning that come with technological advancement.

We have several specific concerns with SB 350. We do not agree with a uniform and total no technology status for elementary classrooms. At the middle school level, strictly shared technology is unworkable given the breadth and geographic distribution of tens of thousands middle school students in our district. We are not alone.

The preference and requirement for physical books is both costly and redundant. The costs of purchasing physical books dwarfs the reusable, adaptable, and updatable electronic teaching aids.

We focus significant attention for a thoughtful blend of hands-on books and other physical resources and technology as needed to learn, grow, and function in our culture. We plan, monitor, adapt, and therefore oppose SB 350 that takes us in the opposition direction.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify.

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