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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Education
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: January 15, 2026
Subject: SB 302—Prohibiting Certain Personal Electronic Communication Devices at School and Social Media Communications from School Employees

Senate Bill 302 would require school districts and accredited nonpublic schools to prohibit the use of personal electronic communication devices during instructional time and prohibit any employee of a school district or accredited nonpublic school from using social media to directly communicate with any student for official school purposes.

New Section 1 of SB 302 would require each board of education of a school district and governing authority of accredited nonpublic schools to adopt policies and procedures for the use of personal electronic communication devices¹ by students during instructional time.² Such policies and procedures would:

- Prohibit students from using or accessing such devices during instructional time;
- Require such devices be turned off and stored in an inaccessible location during instructional time;
- Authorize students to not bring such devices to school by leaving such devices at home or in a vehicle, even if such vehicle is on school property;
- Include enforcement procedures and disciplinary actions for violations;

¹ "Personal electronic communication device" means any wireless electronic communication device that provides for voice, text or video communication between two or more parties and is not owned or issued to students by the school district or accredited nonpublic school. The term includes mobile or cellular phones, tablets, computers, watches, wireless headphones and earbuds, text messaging devices and personal digital assistants.

² "Instructional time" means the time from the start of the school day until dismissal at the end of the school day on the school premises.

- Authorize student use of such devices during instructional time if it is required by the student's IEP or 504 plan or approved by a licensed physician as a medical necessity; and
- Authorize a student to contact a parent or person acting as parent through the use of a school telephone or communications device.

New Section 1 would also authorize boards of education and governing authorities to adopt policies and procedures limiting the use of personal electronic communications devices at school-sponsored activities or events that occur outside instructional time.

New Section 2 of SB 302 would require each board of education of a school district and governing authority of accredited nonpublic schools to adopt policies and procedures to prohibit each employee from privately or directly communicating with students via social media platforms³ for official school purposes,⁴ except when a social media platform has been approved by the board of education or governing authority for official school purposes.

New Section 3 would require each board of education and governing authority to submit certification to the state board of education that the policies and procedures required by sections 1 and 2 have been adopted.

New Section 4 would exempt virtual schools, as defined in K.S.A. 72-3712, from the requirements of SB 302 or any policies and procedures adopted pursuant to the bill.

SB 302 would take effect on July 1, 2026, upon publication in the statute book.

³ "Social media platform" means any online website, application, computer software or other internet medium that permits a person to become a registered user, establish an account or create a profile for the purpose of creating, sharing and viewing user-generated content. Social media platform includes, but is not limited to, snapchat, Instagram, facebook, X and tiktok.

⁴ "Official school purposes" means the broadcasting or posting of public, one-way communications that pertain to school functions, activities or events.