

House File 2547

H-8172

1 Amend House File 2547 as follows:

2 1. By striking everything after the enacting clause and  
3 inserting:

4 <Section 1. Section 299.12, Code 2024, is amended by  
5 striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the  
6 following:

7 **299.12 Failure to attend — attendance cooperation meeting**  
8 **— agreement.**

9 1. As used in this section:

10 *a. "Chronically absent"* means any absence from school  
11 for more than ten percent of the days in a school calendar  
12 established pursuant to section 279.10 by a public school or  
13 an accredited nonpublic school.

14 *b. "School official"* means an employee of a public school or  
15 an accredited nonpublic school whose primary job duties involve  
16 identifying children who are at risk for becoming chronically  
17 absent, creating interventions to limit the rate of student  
18 absenteeism in the public school or accredited nonpublic  
19 school, and participating in the legal process related to  
20 student absenteeism.

21 2. *a.* If a child is chronically absent, a school official  
22 shall attempt to find the cause for the child's absences and  
23 shall initiate and participate in an attendance cooperation  
24 meeting. The purpose of the attendance cooperation meeting  
25 is to identify the child's barriers to attendance and  
26 the interventions that may be used to improve the child's  
27 attendance. All of the following individuals shall participate  
28 in the attendance cooperation meeting:

29 (1) The child, if the child is twelve years of age or older  
30 or is an emancipated minor.

31 (2) The child's parent, guardian, or legal or actual  
32 custodian, if the child is not an emancipated minor.

33 (3) A school official.

34 *b.* (1) During the attendance cooperation meeting, the  
35 participants shall create and sign an attendance cooperation

1 agreement. Each participant signing the attendance cooperation  
2 agreement shall receive a copy of the agreement. The  
3 attendance cooperation agreement shall identify the causes of  
4 the child's absences and the future responsibilities of each  
5 participant related to the child's attendance.

6 (2) A school official shall monitor the participants'  
7 compliance with the terms of the attendance cooperation  
8 agreement. The attendance cooperation agreement shall require  
9 a school official to periodically contact the participants  
10 to monitor the performance of the participants under the  
11 agreement.

12 c. During the attendance cooperation meeting, a school  
13 official may initiate referrals to any services or counseling  
14 that the participants believe may be appropriate under the  
15 circumstances to improve the child's attendance.

16 d. If the participants in the attendance cooperation meeting  
17 fail to enter into an attendance cooperation agreement, or  
18 if the child or the child's parent, guardian, or legal or  
19 actual custodian violates a term of the attendance cooperation  
20 agreement or fails to participate in the attendance cooperation  
21 meeting, the school official may refer the matter to the county  
22 attorney for mediation or prosecution within the county where  
23 the school's central administrative office is located.

24 e. This subsection is not applicable to a child who is  
25 receiving competent private instruction or independent private  
26 instruction in accordance with the requirements of chapter  
27 299A.

28 Sec. 2. SCHOOL DISTRICTS — POLICIES RELATED TO PORTABLE  
29 ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

30 1. a. On or before December 31, 2024, each school district  
31 shall develop a policy that restricts student use of cellular  
32 telephones and smartphones during classroom instructional time.

33 b. The policy shall describe with specificity the  
34 expectations related to student use of cellular telephones and  
35 smartphones during the school day and disciplinary actions the

1 school district will take if a student violates the policy.

2 c. The policy shall apply to all attendance centers within  
3 the school district; provided, however, that the policy may  
4 establish different expectations and disciplinary actions for  
5 different grade levels.

6 d. The policy shall describe the circumstances in which an  
7 employee of the school district may temporarily waive or make  
8 exceptions to the policy for a student in cases that require  
9 that reasonable exceptions be made.

10 2. The school district shall make the policy available to  
11 the public, including by publishing the policy on the school  
12 district's internet site.

13 Sec. 3. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance  
14 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring  
15 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall  
16 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid  
17 received by the school district under section 257.16. This  
18 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed  
19 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of  
20 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding  
21 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act  
22 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school  
23 districts.>

24 2. Title page, by striking lines 1 and 2 and inserting  
25 <An Act relating to education, including by requiring  
26 attendance cooperation meetings when a child is chronically  
27 absent from school and requiring school districts to develop  
28 policies restricting student use of cellular telephones and  
29 smartphones.>

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COLLINS of Des Moines