

## 2026 South Dakota Legislature

**Senate Bill 198****AMENDMENT 198C  
FOR THE SENATE EDUCATION ENGROSSED BILL**

1 **An Act to restrict the use of a cell phone by a student during the school day.**

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-32:**

4 Except as otherwise provided in this section, a student may not use a cell phone  
5 during the school day, as set by the board of the school district pursuant to § 13-26-1.

6 A student may use a cell phone during the school day if ~~the use is:~~

7 ~~(1) The use of a cell phone is required or permitted as part of an approved medical or~~  
8 ~~educational accommodation; or Pre-approved on an individual student basis by an~~  
9 ~~administrator to manage the student's health care;~~

10 ~~(2) The use of a cell phone is required Required or permitted as part of:~~

11 ~~(a) A plan under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, 20 U.S.C. § 794 (January~~  
12 ~~1, 2026); or~~

13 ~~(b) An individual education program under 20 U.S.C. § 1401 (January 1, 2026);~~

14 ~~(3) Permitted by a teacher as part of the implementation of the teacher's lesson plan;~~  
15 ~~or~~

16 ~~(4) Required during an emergency affecting the health, safety, or well-being of a~~  
17 ~~student or staff member.~~

18 The board of each school district shall adopt a policy that sets forth disciplinary  
19 actions for student noncompliance.