

# House Bill 3103

Sponsored by Representative KENY-GUYER (at the request of David Morrison)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs Department of Education to review scientific studies on potential health risks associated with repeated exposure to radiofrequency radiation emitted from wireless computer network technology and wireless communication devices.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to health effects of repeated exposure to radiofrequency radiation from wireless technology  
3 in schools; and declaring an emergency.

4 Whereas students, teachers and school staff are exposed to radiofrequency radiation emissions  
5 from the use of wireless computer network technology, wireless routers, wireless communication  
6 devices, laptop computers, tablets, cellular telephones and smart boards in schools in this state; and

7 Whereas the Department of Education identifies as a priority the physical and mental health  
8 of students, teachers and school staff; and

9 Whereas in May 2011, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a division of the World  
10 Health Organization, categorized radiofrequency radiation from wireless communication devices as  
11 a possible carcinogen; and

12 Whereas a study conducted by the National Toxicology Program, a division of the National In-  
13 stitutes of Health, on the effects of radiofrequency radiation on animal tissue found that the radi-  
14 ation emitted from use of cellular telephones causes brain and heart cancer; and

15 Whereas members of national and international scientific communities acknowledge that the  
16 public should be notified of the possible risks to human health associated with radiofrequency radi-  
17 ation emitting products; and

18 Whereas nationwide, teachers' unions, parent-teacher associations, school boards, school board  
19 associations and professional organizations representing physicians have issued statements relating  
20 to the risks of exposure to radiofrequency radiation emissions from wireless communication devices;  
21 and

22 Whereas scientific research studies document and confirm that exposure to radiofrequency ra-  
23 diation emissions affects biological functions and has reproductive health impacts; and

24 Whereas scientists from the international scientific community signed an appeal to the United  
25 Nations calling for protection from nonionizing electromagnetic field exposure and urged the United  
26 Nations Environmental Program to initiate an assessment of alternatives that could substantially  
27 lower human exposure to ionizing or nonionizing radiation; and

28 Whereas in response to independently funded, peer-reviewed scientific studies about the effects  
29 of nonionizing radiation, 24 countries have taken steps to remove or reduce classroom exposure to  
30 radiation in schools and libraries; and

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       Whereas international teachers' organizations, unions, federations and associations have pub-  
2       lished statements condemning unsafe exposure to electromagnetic frequencies from wireless tech-  
3       nology in schools; and

4       Whereas in 2015, Princeton University removed from the university website all assurances on  
5       wireless safety; and

6       Whereas the leading telecommunications provider in Switzerland revealed that radiation from  
7       wireless technology has a dangerous and significant impact on the human body; and

8       Whereas a Swiss risk management consulting and insurance firm published a report that cate-  
9       gorized all microwave-emitting devices in the highest emerging risk category and thus prevented the  
10      telecommunications industry from obtaining liability insurance; now, therefore,

11 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

12      **SECTION 1.** (1)(a) **The Department of Education, in consultation with educators, scien-**  
13 **tists, parents, medical professionals and students, shall review scientific studies that have**  
14 **been reviewed by unbiased independent experts for scientific accuracy, validity and reliability**  
15 **to:**

16      **(A) Determine the potential health risks from repeated exposure to radiofrequency radi-**  
17 **ation that is emitted from wireless technology and wireless communication devices;**

18      **(B) Develop an outreach plan to disseminate information to students and parents about**  
19 **the potential adverse health effects associated with repeated exposure to radiofrequency ra-**  
20 **diation emissions from wireless technology and wireless communication devices; and**

21      **(C) Develop research-based practices to reduce exposure to radiofrequency radiation**  
22 **emissions in schools in this state.**

23      **(b) Individuals who consult with the department serve in a volunteer capacity only and**  
24 **are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses.**

25      **(2) The department shall report the results of the review, and may make recommen-**  
26 **dations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to ed-**  
27 **ucation and health care no later than September 15, 2018.**

28      **(3) For purposes of carrying out the duties of this section, the department may accept**  
29 **contributions of funds and assistance from any source, public or private, except from a**  
30 **source that has a direct beneficial financial interest in the outcome of the review performed**  
31 **under this section.**

32      **SECTION 2.** **Section 1 of this 2017 Act is repealed on June 1, 2019.**

33      **SECTION 3.** **This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
34 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect**  
35 **on its passage.**

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