A Bill to Establish Safer Online Platforms for Minors

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. All social media platforms in-operation within the United States shall implement additional online safety measures for users under the age of 18 years old. These measures include increased privacy protections, improved reporting systems, and personalized content recommendations and or restrictions.

SECTION 2. Under this legislation, social media platforms are required to:

A. Provide users under 18 with a default setting that protects them from unsolicited messages from unknown users.

B. Provide minors on social media platforms easy access to human led reporting systems against threats, exploitation, harassment, or any other harmful content the user may find undesirable or harmful.

C. Allow users to disable or enable personalized algorithms or use non-personalized algorithms

D. Limit promotion of harmful or violent content to users under 18 years old.

For purposes of this legislation “social media platform” should be defined as “websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in online networking”

“Personalized content” should be defined as “an algorithm that recommends or promotes content to a user based off their activity, interests or other data that may be specific to the user”

“Harmful content” should be defined as “content that promotes or facilitates violence, exploitation, abuse, harassment, or anything that may cause mental or physical harm and or endanger the user.”

SECTION 3. The federal trade commission shall oversee and enforce this legislation. Social media platforms that knowingly or repeatedly fail to comply with this legislation shall face penalties of up to $10 million per infraction. platforms shall not be required to collect government issued identification from every user or provide the government with private user data.

SECTION 4. This legislation shall take effect on January 1, 2028 all laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Bemidji High School.