

DISCUSSION DRAFT

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Kids Internet Safety Partnership to identify and advance best practices with respect to the online safety of minors, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. FRY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Kids Internet Safety Partnership to identify and advance best practices with respect to the online safety of minors, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Kids Internet Safety
5 Partnership Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. KIDS INTERNET SAFETY PARTNERSHIP.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after
3 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
4 establish the Kids Internet Safety Partnership.

5 (b) DIRECTOR.—The Secretary shall appoint a Direc-
6 tor to be the head of the Partnership.

7 (c) DUTIES.—The duties of the Partnership shall be
8 the following:

9 (1) Coordinate with relevant Federal agencies,
10 including the Federal Trade Commission, and stake-
11 holders to identify—

12 (A) the risks for minors with respect to the
13 use of websites, online services, online applica-
14 tions, and mobile applications;

15 (B) the benefits for minors with respect to
16 the use of websites, online services, online appli-
17 cations, and mobile applications; and

18 (C) widely accepted or evidence-based best
19 practices that account for minors of different
20 ages and—

21 (i) address the risks identified under
22 subparagraph (A); and

23 (ii) preserve and enhance the benefits
24 identified under subparagraph (B).

25 (2) Not later than 1 year after the date on
26 which the Partnership is established, and every 2

1 years thereafter, publish on a publicly available
2 website a report that details—

3 (A) the identifications made under para-
4 graph (1); and

5 (B) the efficacy and adoption by websites,
6 online services, online applications, and mobile
7 applications of—

8 (i) safeguards for minors; and

9 (ii) parental tools.

10 (3) Not later than 2 years after the date on
11 which the Partnership is established, publish on a
12 publicly available website a playbook for providers
13 and developers of websites, online services, online
14 applications, and mobile applications to facilitate the
15 implementation of widely accepted or evidence-based
16 best practices that account for minors of different
17 ages and address the risks identified under para-
18 graph (1)(A) and preserve and enhance the benefits
19 identified under paragraph (1)(B), including best
20 practices with respect to—

21 (A) age verification, assurance, and esti-
22 mation techniques;

23 (B) design features;

24 (C) parental tools;

25 (D) default privacy and account settings;

1 (E) reporting systems and tools;
2 (F) third-party safety software services;
3 and
4 (G) limitations and opt-outs related to per-
5 sonalized recommendation systems and
6 chatbots.

7 (d) STAKEHOLDERS.—In coordinating with stake-
8 holders under subsection (c)(1), the Partnership shall co-
9 ordinate with the following:

10 (1) Academic experts with specific expertise
11 with respect to the prevention of risks for minors on-
12 line.

13 (2) Researchers with specific expertise with re-
14 spect to social media.

15 (3) Parents and minors with demonstrated ex-
16 perience with respect to the safety of minors online.

17 (4) Educators with demonstrated experience
18 with respect to the safety of minors online.

19 (5) Online platforms.

20 (6) Experts in academia and civil society with
21 specific expertise with respect to constitutional law,
22 privacy, free expression, access to information, and
23 civil liberties.

24 (7) State attorneys general (or designees there-
25 of who work in State or local government).

1 (e) SUNSET.—The Partnership shall terminate on the
2 date that is 5 years after the date on which the Partner-
3 ship is established.

4 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) DESIGN FEATURE.—The term “design fea-
6 ture”—

7 (A) means any feature or component of a
8 website, online service, online application, or
9 mobile application that encourages an increase
10 in or increases the frequency of use or time
11 spent by a user who is a minor with respect to
12 such website, service, or application; and

13 (B) includes—

14 (i) infinite scrolling or auto play;

15 (ii) rewards or incentives based on
16 frequency of use or time spent;

17 (iii) notifications and push alerts;

18 (iv) badges or other visual award sym-
19 bols based on frequency of use or time
20 spent; and

21 (v) appearance altering filters.

22 (2) MINOR.—The term “minor” means an indi-
23 vidual who is under the age of 18.

24 (3) PARENT.—The term “parent” means a
25 legal guardian of a minor.

1 (4) PARENTAL TOOL.—The term “parental
2 tool”—

3 (A) means a tool that—

4 (i) a website, online service, online ap-
5 plication, or mobile application provides to
6 a parent of a user who the service or appli-
7 cation knows is a minor; and

8 (ii) the parent uses to support such
9 user with respect to the use of the website,
10 service, or application; and

11 (B) includes a tool that allows a parent of
12 a user who the website, service, or application
13 knows is a minor to—

14 (i) view or change the privacy and ac-
15 count settings of such user;

16 (ii) grant or withdraw verifiable pa-
17 rental consent;

18 (iii) restrict the purchases and finan-
19 cial transactions of such user;

20 (iv) view metrics of the total time
21 spent on such website, service, or applica-
22 tion by such user;

23 (v) restrict time spent on such
24 website, service, or application by such
25 user;

- 1 (vi) report illegal or harmful conduct
2 on such website, service, or application
3 with respect to which such user may be a
4 victim; and
5 (vii) limit or opt-out of personalized
6 recommendation systems or chatbots.

7 (5) PARTNERSHIP.—The term “Partnership”
8 means the Kids Internet Safety Partnership estab-
9 lished under subsection (a).

10 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
11 the Secretary of Commerce.

12 (7) VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT.—The
13 term “verifiable parental consent” has the meaning
14 given such term in section 1302 of the Children’s
15 Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (15 U.S.C.
16 6501).