



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 6857***

LCO No. 4325



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:  
(GL)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S  
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING SOCIAL MEDIA AND MINORS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2       (1) "Covered minor" means any covered user who is younger than
- 3       eighteen years of age;
- 4       (2) "Covered operator" means any operator who operates or provides
- 5       a platform that recommends, selects or prioritizes media items in the
- 6       manner set forth in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section;
- 7       (3) "Covered user" means any user of a platform in this state who is
- 8       not acting as the operator, or as an agent or affiliate of the operator, of
- 9       such platform;
- 10      (4) "Media item" means any text, image or video;
- 11      (5) "Operator" means any individual, corporation, limited liability
- 12      company, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability partnership,
- 13      association, joint-stock company, unincorporated organization or other

14 legal entity that operates or provides a platform; and

15 (6) "Platform" means any Internet web site, online service, online  
16 application or mobile application, including, but not limited to, any  
17 social media platform, as defined in section 42-528 of the general  
18 statutes, or any portion thereof.

19 (b) (1) No operator of a platform shall allow a covered user to access  
20 any portion of the platform that recommends, selects or prioritizes for  
21 display, either concurrently or sequentially, media items generated or  
22 shared by users of such platform if such recommendation, selection or  
23 prioritization is based, in whole or in part, on any information  
24 associated with the covered user or the covered user's device, unless:

25 (A) (i) The operator has used commercially reasonable and  
26 technically feasible methods to determine that the covered user is not a  
27 covered minor; or

28 (ii) If the covered user is a covered minor, the operator has obtained  
29 verifiable consent from the covered minor's parent or legal guardian to  
30 recommend, select or prioritize media items for such covered minor in  
31 the manner set forth in this subdivision;

32 (B) The recommendation, selection or prioritization (i) is based on  
33 information that is not persistently associated with the covered user or  
34 the covered user's device, and (ii) does not concern the covered user's  
35 previous interactions with media items generated or shared by other  
36 users of such platform;

37 (C) The recommendation, selection or prioritization is based on (i)  
38 privacy or accessibility settings selected by the covered user, or (ii)  
39 technical information concerning the covered user's device;

40 (D) The covered user has expressly and unambiguously requested  
41 that any media item, media items from an author, creator or poster to  
42 whom the covered user has subscribed or media items shared by users

43 to a page or group to which the covered user has subscribed be  
44 displayed, blocked, prioritized or deprioritized;

45 (E) The recommended, selected or prioritized media item is a direct  
46 and private communication;

47 (F) The media item is recommended, selected or prioritized  
48 exclusively in response to a specific search inquiry made by the covered  
49 user;

50 (G) The media item is recommended, selected or prioritized for  
51 display exclusively because the media item (i) immediately follows any  
52 other media item in a preexisting sequence, and (ii) is from the same  
53 author, creator, poster or source; or

54 (H) The recommendation, selection or prioritization is necessary to  
55 comply with any other provision of this section.

56 (2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, a  
57 covered operator that has used commercially reasonable and technically  
58 feasible methods to determine a covered user's age and cannot  
59 determine whether the covered user is a covered minor shall presume  
60 that such covered user is not a covered minor for the purposes of this  
61 subsection.

62 (B) A covered operator shall treat a covered user as a covered minor  
63 if the covered operator obtains actual knowledge that the covered user  
64 is a covered minor.

65 (3) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision:

66 (i) No information that is collected for the purpose of determining a  
67 covered user's age under this subsection shall be used for any other  
68 purpose, and such information shall be deleted immediately after an  
69 attempt is made to determine the covered user's age; and

70 (ii) No information that is collected for the purpose of obtaining

71 verifiable consent from a covered minor's parent or legal guardian shall  
72 be used for any other purpose, and such information shall be deleted  
73 immediately after an attempt is made to obtain such verifiable consent.

74 (B) Any information that is collected for any purpose set forth in  
75 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision may be used or retained if such  
76 use or retention is necessary to comply with any federal law or  
77 regulation or any other law or regulation of this state.

78 (4) No covered operator shall withhold or degrade, or reduce the  
79 quality or increase the price of, any product, service or feature due to  
80 the prohibition against recommending, selecting or prioritizing media  
81 items in the manner set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection, unless  
82 such withholding, degradation, reduction or increase is necessary for  
83 such covered operator to comply with the provisions of this subsection.

84 (5) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit any  
85 covered operator from taking any action to restrict access to, or the  
86 availability of, any media item that such covered operator in good faith  
87 considers to be obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, excessively violent,  
88 harassing or otherwise objectionable, regardless of whether such media  
89 item is protected under the Constitution of the state or the Constitution  
90 of the United States.

91 (c) (1) No covered operator shall send any notification to a covered  
92 minor concerning any recommendation, selection or prioritization  
93 made in the manner set forth in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this  
94 section unless:

95 (A) Such notification is sent to the covered minor during the hours  
96 between six o'clock a.m. and twelve o'clock midnight eastern time; or

97 (B) The covered operator has obtained verifiable consent from the  
98 covered minor's parent or legal guardian to send notifications to such  
99 covered minor outside of the time frame set forth in subparagraph (A)  
100 of this subdivision.

101 (2) Each covered operator shall:

102 (A) As a default setting for such covered operator's platform and  
103 unless otherwise required by a covered minor's verified parent or legal  
104 guardian pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, (i) prevent  
105 the covered minor from accessing or receiving any notification  
106 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection outside of the time frame  
107 set forth in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, (ii)  
108 limit the covered minor's access to any portion of such covered  
109 operator's platform that recommends, selects or prioritizes media items  
110 in the manner set forth in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section  
111 to a maximum period of one hour per day, and (iii) set the covered  
112 minor's platform account to a mode that exclusively allows users to  
113 whom such covered minor is connected to view or respond to content  
114 posted by such covered minor; and

115 (B) Establish and maintain a mechanism by which a covered minor's  
116 verified parent or legal guardian may require such covered operator to  
117 (i) prevent the covered minor from accessing or receiving any  
118 notification described in subdivision (1) of this subsection outside of a  
119 time frame specified by such parent or legal guardian, (ii) limit the  
120 covered minor's access to any portion of such covered operator's  
121 platform that recommends, selects or prioritizes media items in the  
122 manner set forth in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section to a  
123 maximum daily period specified by such parent or legal guardian, or  
124 (iii) set the covered minor's platform account to a mode that exclusively  
125 allows users to whom such covered minor is connected to view or  
126 respond to content posted by such covered minor.

127 (d) Not later than March 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, each  
128 covered operator shall publicly disclose, in a form and manner specified  
129 by the Attorney General, the following information for the preceding  
130 calendar year:

131 (1) The total number of covered users who used the covered

132 operator's platform during such year;

133 (2) The portion of the total number of covered users described in  
 134 subdivision (1) of this subsection for whom the operator obtained  
 135 verifiable consent from a parent or legal guardian under subparagraph  
 136 (A)(ii) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section;

137 (3) The portion of the total number of covered users described in  
 138 subdivision (1) of this subsection for whom the default settings set forth  
 139 in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section  
 140 were enabled, and the portion of such total number of covered users for  
 141 which such default settings were not enabled; and

142 (4) The average amount of time per day that covered users used the  
 143 covered operator's platform, broken down by user age and hour of day.

144 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to (1) require a covered  
 145 operator to provide a covered minor's parent or legal guardian with  
 146 access to, or control over, such minor's platform account or any data  
 147 associated therewith, unless provision of such access or control is  
 148 specifically required by this section, or (2) impose liability for any  
 149 commercial activity or action by an operator subject to 15 USC 6501, as  
 150 amended from time to time, that is inconsistent with the manner in  
 151 which such commercial activity or action is treated under 15 USC 6502,  
 152 as amended from time to time.

153 (f) A violation of this section shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive  
 154 trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b of the general  
 155 statutes, and the provisions of this section shall be enforced exclusively  
 156 by the Attorney General.

|                                                                               |              |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |              |             |
| Section 1                                                                     | July 1, 2026 | New section |

|           |              |             |
|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| Section 1 | July 1, 2026 | New section |
|-----------|--------------|-------------|

**Statement of Purpose:**

To (1) restrict a minor's ability to access any portion of a social media platform that recommends, selects or prioritizes certain media items, (2) provide for age verification to ensure that a minor does not access certain portions of a social media platform without consent from the minor's parent or legal guardian, (3) subject to modification by a minor's parent or legal guardian, restrict (A) the hours during which (i) a social media platform may send certain notifications to a minor, and (ii) a minor may access certain portions of a social media platform, and (B) who may view or respond to content a minor posts on a social media platform, and (4) require social media platforms to publicly disclose certain information on an annual basis.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*