



Sectional Analysis

HB 254 (33-LS0990\U.A) PROHIBITS PORNOGRAPHY TO MINORS

“An Act relating to minors and the Internet; and relating to use of social media by minors.”

Section 1: Adds a new section that establishes civil liability if the person or entity intentionally publishes or distributes pornography and does not use a “commercially reasonable age verification method.” The section also defines a “commercially reasonable age verification method” and regulates how identifying information is handled.

Section 1 (b) prohibits the retention of identifying information of an individual.

Section 1 (c) and (d) exempt news, public interest sites, internet service providers, search engines, and cloud service providers.

Finally, Section 1 (e) provides definitions for terms used in this bill.

Section 2: Adds a new section that establishes a “Parental Control Software Reimbursement” program under the Department of Family and Community Services which would provide a grant to parents of up to \$100.00 per child to purchase control software.

Section 3: Adds a new section that establishes protections for minors who are 15 and under by limiting their access to social media platforms.

- AS 45.50.650(a) prohibits minors under 14 from signing up for a social media account.
- AS 45.50.650(b) requires minors who are 14 or 15 to obtain parental consent to sign up for a social media account.
- AS 45.50.650(c) requires a social media platform “commercially reasonable age verification method” to confirm the age of those who sign up for a social media account.
- AS 45.50.650(c) prohibits the retention of identifying information of an individual.
- AS 45.50.660 (a) requires accounts to be deleted that do not conform with the requirements outlined in AS 45.50.650.
- AS 45.50.670(a) provides that the Attorney General may enforce the requirements outlined in AS 45.50.650.
- AS 45.50.670(b)&(c) establishes the parameters for penalties under AS 45.50.650 or AS 45.50.650 - 45.50.690.

- AS 45.50.680 establishes a private right of action for actual damages, punitive damages, attorney fees, and costs for violations under AS 45.50.650 or AS 45.50.650 - 45.50.690.
- AS 45.50.690 provides for definitions of terms used in AS 45.50.650 - 45.50.690.