

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5173

To require social media companies to use geofencing to block access to their social media platforms on K–12 education campuses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

Ms. CRAIG introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require social media companies to use geofencing to block access to their social media platforms on K–12 education campuses, 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 “No Social Media at
5 School Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO BLOCK ACCESS TO SOCIAL**
7 **MEDIA ON K–12 EDUCATION CAMPUSES.**

8 (a) REQUIREMENT.—A social media company shall
9 use geofencing to block access to their social media plat-

1 form on a K–12 education campus during the regular
2 school day (as determined by the local educational agency
3 associated with such campus), except for any push notifi-
4 cation that includes a weather alert, an amber alert, and
5 other uses from emergency responders for public safety
6 purposes.

7 (b) PROTECTIONS FOR PRIVACY.—Nothing in this
8 section may be construed to require—

9 (1) the affirmative collection of any personal
10 data with respect to the age of users by a social
11 media company that the company is not already col-
12 lecting in the normal course of business; or

13 (2) a social media company to implement an
14 age gating or age verification functionality.

15 (c) ENFORCEMENT.—

16 (1) ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COM-
17 MISSION.—

18 (A) UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ACTS OR
19 PRACTICES.—A violation of this section shall be
20 treated as a violation of a rule defining an un-
21 fair or deceptive act or practice prescribed
22 under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade
23 Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

24 (B) POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Trade
2 Commission shall enforce this section in
3 the same manner, by the same means, and
4 with the same jurisdiction, powers, and du-
5 ties as though all applicable terms and pro-
6 visions of the Federal Trade Commission
7 Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incor-
8 porated into and made a part of this sec-
9 tion.

10 (ii) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—
11 Any person that violates this section shall
12 be subject to the penalties, and entitled to
13 the privileges and immunities, provided in
14 the Federal Trade Commission Act (15
15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

16 (C) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in
17 this section shall be construed to limit the au-
18 thority of the Commission under any other pro-
19 vision of law.

20 (d) ENFORCEMENT BY STATE ATTORNEYS GEN-
21 ERAL.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—

23 (A) CIVIL ACTIONS.—In any case in which
24 the attorney general of a State has reason to
25 believe that a covered platform has violated or

1 is violating this section, the State, as *parens*
2 *patriae*, may bring a civil action on behalf of
3 the residents of the State in a district court of
4 the United States or a State court of appro-
5 priate jurisdiction to—

6 (i) enjoin any practice that violates
7 subsection (a);

8 (ii) enforce compliance with subsection
9 (a);

10 (iii) on behalf of residents of the
11 State, obtain damages, restitution, or other
12 compensation, each of which shall be dis-
13 tributed in accordance with State law; or

14 (iv) obtain such other relief as the
15 court may consider to be appropriate.

16 (B) NOTICE.—

17 (i) IN GENERAL.—Before filing an ac-
18 tion under subparagraph (A), the attorney
19 general of the State involved shall provide
20 to the Commission—

21 (I) written notice of that action;

22 and

23 (II) a copy of the complaint for
24 that action.

25 (ii) EXEMPTION.—

1 (I) IN GENERAL.—Clause (i)
2 shall not apply with respect to the fil-
3 ing of an action by an attorney gen-
4 eral of a State under this paragraph
5 if the attorney general of the State
6 determines that it is not feasible to
7 provide the notice described in that
8 clause before the filing of the action.

9 (II) NOTIFICATION.—In an ac-
10 tion described in subclause (I), the at-
11 torney general of a State shall provide
12 notice and a copy of the complaint to
13 the Commission at the same time as
14 the attorney general files the action.

15 (2) INTERVENTION.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—On receiving notice
17 under paragraph (1)(B), the Commission shall
18 have the right to intervene in the action that is
19 the subject of the notice.

20 (B) EFFECT OF INTERVENTION.—If the
21 Commission intervenes in an action under para-
22 graph (1), the Commission shall have the
23 right—

24 (i) to remove the action to the appro-
25 priate United States district court;

- 1 (ii) to be heard with respect to any
2 matter that arises in that action; and
3 (iii) to file a petition for appeal.

4 (3) CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of bringing
5 any civil action under paragraph (1), nothing in this
6 section shall be construed to prevent an attorney
7 general of a State from exercising the powers con-
8 ferred on the attorney general by the laws of that
9 State to—

10 (A) conduct investigations;

11 (B) administer oaths or affirmations; or

12 (C) compel the attendance of witnesses or
13 the production of documentary and other evi-
14 dence.

15 (4) ACTIONS BY THE COMMISSION.—In any
16 case in which an action is instituted by or on behalf
17 of the Commission for violation of this section, no
18 State may, during the pendency of that action, insti-
19 tute a separate action under paragraph (1) against
20 any defendant named in the complaint in the action
21 instituted by or on behalf of the Commission for
22 that violation.

23 (5) VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.—

24 (A) VENUE.—Any action brought under
25 paragraph (1) may be brought in—

1 (i) the district court of the United
2 States that meets applicable requirements
3 relating to venue under section 1391 of
4 title 28, United States Code; or

5 (ii) a State court of competent juris-
6 diction.

7 (B) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—In an action
8 brought under paragraph (1) in a district court
9 of the United States, process may be served
10 wherever defendant—

11 (i) is an inhabitant; or

12 (ii) may be found.

13 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
15 means the Federal Trade Commission.

16 (2) GEOFENCING.—The term “geofencing”
17 means a virtual boundary maintained by a social
18 media platform.

19 (3) K–12 EDUCATION.—The term “K–12 edu-
20 cation” means an elementary school or secondary
21 school (as such terms are defined in section 8101 of
22 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
23 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)).

24 (4) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
25 “local educational agency” has the meaning given

1 such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and
2 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

3 (5) SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANY.—The term “social
4 media company”—

5 (A) means a company that runs a social
6 media platform; and

7 (B) does not include—

8 (i) an organization not organized to
9 carry on business for its own profit or that
10 of its members; or

11 (ii) an educational agency or institu-
12 tion (as defined in section 444 of the Gen-
13 eral Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C.
14 1232g(a)(3))).

15 (6) SOCIAL MEDIAL PLATFORM.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “social media
17 platform” means a public-facing website, online
18 service, online application, or mobile application
19 that—

20 (i) is directed to consumers;

21 (ii) collects personal data;

22 (iii) primarily derives revenue from
23 advertising or the sale of personal data;
24 and

1 (iv) as the primary function provides
2 a community forum for user-generated
3 content, including messages, videos, and
4 audio files among users where such content
5 is primarily intended for viewing, re-
6 sharing, or platform-enabled distributed
7 social endorsement or comment.

8 (B) LIMITATION.—The term “social medial
9 platform” does not include a platform that, as
10 the primary function for consumers, provides or
11 facilitates any of the following:

12 (i) The purchase and sale of commer-
13 cial goods.

14 (ii) Teleconferencing or
15 videoconferencing services that allow recep-
16 tion and transmission of audio or video
17 signals for real-time communication, pro-
18 vided that the real-time communication is
19 initiated by using a unique link or identi-
20 fier to facilitate access.

21 (iii) Crowd-sourced reference guides
22 such as encyclopedias and dictionaries.

23 (iv) Cloud storage, file sharing, or file
24 collaboration services, including such serv-

ices that allow collaborative editing by invited users.

(v) The playing or creation of video games.

(vi) Content that consists primarily of news, sports, sports coverage, entertainment, or other information or content that is not user-generated but is preselected by the platform and for which any chat, comment, or interactive functionality is incidental, directly related to, or dependent on the provision of the content provided by the platform.

(vii) Business, product, or travel information including user reviews or rankings of such businesses, products, or other travel information.

(viii) Educational information, experiences, training, or instruction provided to build knowledge, skills, or a craft, district-sanctioned or school-sanctioned learning management systems and school information systems for the purposes of schools conveying content related to the education of students, or services or services on be-

1 half of or in support of an elementary
2 school or secondary school, as such terms
3 are defined in section 8101 of the Elemen-
4 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
5 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

6 (ix) An email service.

7 (x) A wireless messaging service, in-
8 cluding such a service provided through
9 short message service or multimedia mes-
10 saging protocols, that is not a component
11 of, or linked to, a social media platform
12 and where the predominant or exclusive
13 function of the messaging service is direct
14 messaging consisting of the transmission of
15 text, photos, or videos that are sent by
16 electronic means, where messages are
17 transmitted from the sender to the recipi-
18 ent and are not posted publicly or within
19 a social media platform.

20 (xi) A broadband internet access serv-
21 ice (as such term is defined for purposes of
22 section 8.1(b) of title 47, Code of Federal
23 Regulations, or any successor regulation).

- 1 (xii) A virtual private network or simi-
2 lar service that exists solely to route inter-
3 net traffic between locations.

○