

HR 6796

Digital Services Oversight and Safety Act of 2022

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Commerce

Introduced: Feb 18, 2022

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce. (Feb 22, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6796>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		Feb 18, 2022
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Feb 18, 2022
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Jul 18, 2022
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Aug 12, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 18, 2022
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 22, 2022
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 18, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Commerce

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Digital Services Oversight and Safety Act of 2022

This bill establishes the Bureau of Digital Services Oversight and Safety within the Federal Trade Commission to provide oversight for content moderation by online platforms (e.g., social media companies). Content moderation includes actions taken by a platform to detect and address user content that is illegal or incompatible with the platform's community standards.

Specifically, the commission and the bureau may conduct investigative studies concerning the dissemination of illegal content or goods through the platforms, discrimination of individuals by the platforms, and the risk of harm caused by the malfunction or intentional manipulation of the platforms. The bill also provides whistleblower protections for individuals who assist with federal investigations related to such platforms.

Further, platforms must include in their community standards the policies and procedures for content moderation, and they must publish transparency reports about the platform's content moderation.

Additionally, platforms with at least 10 million average monthly users must provide a complaint-handling system that allows users to appeal content moderation actions by the platform.

Platforms with at least 66 million average monthly users must conduct risk assessments and report on the measures taken to minimize the risk of the potential widespread dissemination of illegal content or content that violates the platform's community standards. The bill also provides for the regulation of automated content recommendations to users of these large platforms.

The bill provides for enforcement by the commission.

The bill also provides for various research activities related to online content moderation.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 22, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce.
- **Feb 18, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 18, 2022:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.