

S 1291

Protecting Kids on Social Media Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Commerce

Introduced: Apr 26, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Apr 26, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1291>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]

Party: Democratic • State: HI • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Britt, Katie Boyd [R-AL]	R · AL		Apr 26, 2023
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		Apr 26, 2023
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 26, 2023
Sen. Mullin, Markwayne [R-OK]	R · OK		Jun 7, 2023
Sen. Ricketts, Pete [R-NE]	R · NE		Jun 7, 2023
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 7, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Jun 7, 2023
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Jul 27, 2023
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jul 27, 2023
Sen. Marshall, Roger [R-KS]	R · KS		Jul 27, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 26, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Commerce

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 6149	Identical bill	Nov 3, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce.

## Protecting Kids on Social Media Act

This bill requires social media platforms to verify the age of account holders and limits access to such platforms by children.

Specifically, social media platforms (1) must verify the age of account holders, (2) may not allow an individual to create or continue to use an account unless the individual's age has been verified, and (3) must limit access to the platform for children under the age of 13. Social media platforms may not use or retain any information collected during the age verification process for any other purpose.

Further, platforms must take reasonable steps to (1) require affirmative consent from the parent or guardian of a minor who is at least 13 years old to create an account for the minor on the platform, and (2) provide the parent or guardian with the ability to revoke such consent.

Social media platforms may not use the personal data of an individual in an algorithmic recommendation system unless the individual is at least 18 years old according to the platform's age verification process.

The bill requires the Department of Commerce to establish a voluntary pilot program to provide secure digital identification credentials for individuals to use when verifying their age on social media platforms. Commerce may issue rules for social media companies to enroll in the program.

The bill provides for enforcement by the Federal Trade Commission and state attorneys general (or other authorized state officials).

## Actions Timeline

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- **Apr 26, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
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