

S 872

SAFETY on Social Media Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Mar 16, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (Mar 16, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/872>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]

Party: Republican • **State:** AR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 16, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Stopping Attempts by Foreign Entities to Target Youths on Social Media Act Act [sic] of 2023 or the SAFETY on Social Media Act of 2023

This bill restricts domestic access to computer or mobile apps or websites (e.g., TikTok) of social media companies owned or controlled by countries of concern (China, Iran, North Korea, and Russia).

The President must annually publish a list of these companies and block certain transactions involving them. A company must be listed if it

- is a foreign entity owned or controlled by a country of concern;
- has more than a specified number of users or downloads; and
- has altered or may alter the content of apps or websites at the request of, or shared data about U.S. persons (individuals or entities) with, a country of concern.

Additionally, the Federal Communications Commission must prohibit access to listed companies' apps or websites through U.S. app stores and internet service providers.

Further, the bill requires agents of listed companies to register with the Department of Justice and restricts access to U.S. visas by foreign nationals employed by listed companies. Foreign nationals are ineligible for U.S. visas (1) while employed by a listed company, and (2) for three years after either they terminate that employment or their employer is removed from the list. A foreign national of a country of concern who is employed by a listed company is also permanently ineligible for an H-1B visa (nonimmigrant workers in specialty occupations and fashion models).

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 16, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 16, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.