

HB 1231 -- INTERNET CENSORSHIP

SPONSOR: Bailey

This bill establishes the "Stop Social Media Censorship Act", which prohibits certain social media websites, defined in the bill, from intentionally censoring the political or religious speech of a Missouri resident and provides the user a cause of action against a social media website that censors such speech. Hate speech will not be a justifiable basis for a social media website to censor users. The bill also provides circumstances in which a social media website will be immune from liability for censoring certain users or speech. The Attorney General may bring a civil cause of action against a social media website in a court of competent jurisdiction on behalf of users who reside in Missouri and whose political or religious speech was censored in violation of the provisions of this bill.

This bill is similar to HB 482 (2021).