

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

4   HOUSE BILL 3914

                                  By: Caldwell (Chad)

7                                   AS INTRODUCED

8           An Act relating to social media; defining terms;  
9           requiring reasonable age verification; requiring  
10          parental consent; establishing certain liability for  
11          social media companies; establishing certain  
12          liability for commercial entities and third-party  
13          vendors; providing for codification; and providing an  
14          effective date.

14   BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15           SECTION 1.        NEW LAW        A new section of law to be codified  
16          in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 120 of Title 25, unless there is  
17          created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18           As used in this act:

19           1.   "Account holder" means an individual who creates an account  
20          or a profile to use a social media platform;

21           2.   "Oklahoma user" means an individual who is a resident of the  
22          State of Oklahoma and who accesses or attempts to access a social  
23          media platform while present in this state by accessing the social  
24          media platform using an Oklahoma Internet protocol address or

1 otherwise known or believed to be in this state while using the  
2 social media platform;

3 3. "Commercial entity":

4 a. means a corporation, limited liability company,  
5 partnership, limited partnership, sole proprietorship,  
6 or other legally recognized entity, and

7 b. includes a third-party vendor;

8 4. "Digitized identification card" means a data file available  
9 on a mobile device that has connectivity to the Internet through a  
10 state-approved application that allows the mobile device to download  
11 the data file from the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety that  
12 contains all of the data elements visible on the face and back of a  
13 driver license or identification card and displays the current  
14 status of the driver license or identification card, including  
15 valid, expired, canceled, suspended, revoked, active, or inactive;

16 5. "Minor" means an individual under eighteen (18) years of  
17 age;

18 6. "Reasonable age verification" means to confirm that a person  
19 seeking to access a social media platform is at least eighteen (18)  
20 years of age;

21 7. a. "Social media company" means an online forum that a  
22 company makes available for an account holder to:

23 (1) create a public profile, establish an account, or  
24 register as a user for the primary purpose of

1 interacting socially with other profiles and  
2 accounts,

3 (2) upload or create posts or content,

4 (3) view posts or content of other account holders,  
5 and

6 (4) interact with other account holders or users,  
7 including without limitation establishing mutual  
8 connections through request and acceptance.

9 b. Social media company does not include a:

10 (1) media company that exclusively offers  
11 subscription content in which users follow or  
12 subscribe unilaterally and whose platforms'  
13 primary purpose is not social interaction,

14 (2) social media company that allows a user to  
15 generate short video clips of dancing, voice  
16 overs, or other acts of entertainment in which  
17 the primary purpose is not educational or  
18 informative, does not meet the exclusion under  
19 division (1) of subparagraph b of paragraph 7 of  
20 this section,

21 (3) media company that exclusively offers interacting  
22 gaming, virtual gaming, or an online service,  
23 that allows the creation and uploading of content  
24 for the purpose of interacting gaming,

1 entertainment, or associated entertainment, and  
2 the communication related to that content,

3 (4) company that:

4 (a) offers cloud storage services, enterprise  
5 cybersecurity services, educational devices,  
6 or enterprise collaboration tools for  
7 kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12)  
8 schools, and

9 (b) derives less than twenty-five percent (25%)  
10 of the company's revenue from operating a  
11 social media platform, including games and  
12 advertising, or

13 (5) company that provides career development  
14 opportunities, including professional networking,  
15 job skills, learning certifications, and job  
16 posting and application services;

17 8. a. "Social media platform" means a public or semipublic  
18 Internet-based service or application:

19 (1) that has users in Oklahoma, and

20 (2) (a) On which a substantial function of the  
21 service or application is to connect users in  
22 order to allow users to interact socially  
23 with each other within the service or  
24 application.

1 (b) A service or application that provides email  
2 or direct messaging shall not be considered  
3 to meet the criteria under subdivision (a)  
4 of division (2) of this subparagraph on the  
5 basis of that function alone.

6 b. Social media platform does not include an online  
7 service, a website, or an application if the  
8 predominant or exclusive function is:

9 (1) email,

10 (2) direct messaging consisting of messages, photos,  
11 or videos that are sent between devices by  
12 electronic means if messages are:

13 (a) shared between the sender and the recipient  
14 or recipients,

15 (b) only visible to the sender and the recipient  
16 or recipients, and

17 (c) are not posted publicly,

18 (3) a streaming service that:

19 (a) provides only licensed media in a continuous  
20 flow from the service, website, or  
21 application to the end user, and

22 (b) does not obtain a license to the media from  
23 a user or account holder by agreement of the  
24 streaming service's terms of service,

- 1 (4) news, sports, entertainment, or other content  
2 that is preselected by the provider and not user-  
3 generated, including without limitation if any  
4 chat, comment, or interactive functionality that  
5 is provided is incidental to, directly related  
6 to, or dependent upon provision of the content,
- 7 (5) online shopping or e-commerce, if the interaction  
8 with other users or account holders is generally  
9 limited to:
- 10 (a) the ability to post and comment on reviews,  
11 (b) the ability to display lists or collections  
12 of goods for sale or wish lists, and  
13 (c) other functions that are focused on online  
14 shopping or e-commerce rather than  
15 interaction between users or account  
16 holders,
- 17 (6) business-to-business software that is not  
18 accessible to the general public,
- 19 (7) cloud storage,  
20 (8) shared document collaboration,  
21 (9) providing access to or interacting with data  
22 visualization platforms, libraries, or hubs,  
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1 (10) to permit comments on a digital news website, if  
2 the news content is posted only by the provider  
3 of the digital news website,

4 (11) for the purpose of providing or obtaining  
5 technical support for the social media company's  
6 social media platform, products, or services,

7 (12) academic or scholarly research,

8 (13) other research:

9 (a) If:

10 (i) the majority of the content is posted  
11 or created by the provider of the  
12 online service, website, or  
13 application, and

14 (ii) the ability to chat, comment, or  
15 interact with other users is directly  
16 related to the provider's content,

17 (b) that is a classified advertising service  
18 that only permits the sale of goods and  
19 prohibits the solicitation of personal  
20 services, or

21 (c) that is used by and under the direction of  
22 an educational entity, including without  
23 limitation a:

24 (i) learning management system,

- (ii) student engagement program, and
- (iii) subject-specific or skill-specific program.

c. Social media platform does not include a social media platform that is controlled by a business entity that has generated less than One Hundred Million Dollars (\$100,000,000.00) in annual gross revenue; and

9. "User" means a person who has access to view all or some of the posts and content on a social media platform but is not an account holder.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 121 of Title 25, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. A social media company shall not permit an Oklahoma user who is a minor under sixteen (16) years of age to be an account holder on the social media company's social media platform.

B. A social media company shall not permit an Oklahoma user who is a minor sixteen (16) years of age or older to be an account holder on the social media company's social media platform unless the minor has the express consent of a parent or legal guardian.

C. 1. A social media company shall verify the age of an account holder.

2. If an account holder is a minor, the social media company shall confirm that a minor has consent under subsection A of this



1 section to become a new account holder, at the time an Oklahoma user  
2 opens the account.

3 D. 1. A social media company may use a third-party vendor to  
4 perform reasonable age verification before allowing access to the  
5 social media company's social media platform.

6 2. Reasonable age verification methods under paragraph 1 of  
7 this subsection include providing:

8 a. a digitized identification card, including a digital  
9 copy of a driver's license,

10 b. government-issued identification, or

11 c. any commercially reasonable age verification method.

12 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 122 of Title 25, unless there is  
14 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

15 A. 1. A social media company that knowingly violates this act  
16 is liable if the social media company fails to perform a reasonable  
17 age verification.

18 2. If a social media company performs a reasonable age  
19 verification, the social media company shall not retain any  
20 identifying information of the individual after access to the social  
21 media platform has been granted.

22 B. The Attorney General may initiate an enforcement action  
23 against social media companies that allegedly commit a violation of  
24 this act.

1 C. A social media company that violates this act is liable to  
2 an individual for:

3 1. A penalty of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00)  
4 per violation, court costs, and reasonable attorney fees as ordered  
5 by the court; or

6 2. Damages resulting from a minor accessing a social media  
7 platform without their parent's or custodian's consent, including  
8 court costs and reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the court.

9 D. This section does not:

10 1. Apply to a news or public interest broadcast, website video,  
11 report, or event;

12 2. Affect the rights of a news-gathering organization; or

13 3. Apply to cloud service providers.

14 E. An Internet service provider, or any of its affiliates or  
15 subsidiaries, or search engines, shall not violate this act solely  
16 by providing access, connection to or from a website, or other  
17 information or content on the Internet, or a facility, system, or  
18 network that is not under that Internet service provider's control,  
19 including transmission, downloading, intermediate storage, access  
20 software, or other service that provides access or connectivity, to  
21 the extent the Internet service provider is not responsible for the  
22 creation of the content or the communication on a social media  
23 platform.

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1           SECTION 4.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 123 of Title 25, unless there is  
3 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4           A. A commercial entity or third-party vendor shall not retain  
5 any identifying information of an individual after access to the  
6 social media platform has been granted.

7           B. A commercial entity that is found to have knowingly retained  
8 identifying information of an individual after access to the  
9 material is granted is liable to the individual for damages  
10 resulting from the retention of the identifying information,  
11 including court costs and reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the  
12 court.

13           SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT MODERNIZATION AND  
16 TECHNOLOGY, dated 02/13/2024 - DO PASS.

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