SENATE BILL No. 201

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 24-5-0.5-3; IC 24-16; IC 24-17.

Synopsis: Minor use of mobile devices and social media. Requires the manufacturer of a mobile smart device that incorporates an adult content filter and that is sold in Indiana after January 1, 2025, to configure the operating system of the mobile smart device: (1) such that the adult content filter is enabled upon activation of the mobile smart device; and (2) in a manner that reasonably ensures that a minor cannot disable the adult content filter. Provides that a manufacturer of mobile smart devices commits a deceptive consumer sale that is actionable by the attorney general for each sale in Indiana of a noncompliant mobile smart device manufactured by the manufacturer. Requires a social media provider (provider) that receives a request for creation of an account with the provider's social media service to: (1) determine the age of the individual requesting creation of the account; (2) if the provider determines that the individual is a minor, create the account only if the provider receives written consent to creation of the account from the minor's parent, guardian, or custodian; and (3) if the provider creates an account for the individual, electronically provide specified information to the minor's parent, guardian, or custodian. Provides that a provider has a duty of care to a user of the provider's social media service that the provider knows, or reasonably should know, is a minor and shall: (1) implement reasonable measures in the design and operation of the features of the provider's social media service to mitigate the possibility of a minor's use of the social media service resulting in, or increasing the likelihood of, the minor experiencing specified harms; (2) configure the account of a minor in a specified manner; (3) provide a minor user with access to specified (Continued next page)

Effective: July 1, 2024.

Deery, Donato

January 9, 2024, read first time and referred to Committee on Commerce and Technology.



Digest Continued

features of the social media service only upon affirmative activation of the feature by the user; (4) provide a means for a minor user's parent, guardian, or custodian to: (A) modify specified settings of the minor's account; and (B) access specified information regarding the minor's account; and (5) provide a minor user with an easily understandable and readily available means of deleting the minor's account and any information associated with the minor's account. Prohibits a provider from disclosing personal information of a registered user of the social media service that the provider knows, or reasonably should know, is a minor. Provides that a provider that knowingly and intentionally violates these regulations commits a deceptive act that is actionable by the attorney general.



Second Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2024)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 201

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning trade regulation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 24-5-0.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.34-2022
SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 3. (a) A supplier may not commit an unfair
abusive, or deceptive act, omission, or practice in connection with a
consumer transaction. Such an act, omission, or practice by a supplier
is a violation of this chapter whether it occurs before, during, or after
the transaction. An act, omission, or practice prohibited by this section
includes both implicit and explicit misrepresentations.

- (b) Without limiting the scope of subsection (a), the following acts, and the following representations as to the subject matter of a consumer transaction, made orally, in writing, or by electronic communication, by a supplier, are deceptive acts:
 - (1) That such subject of a consumer transaction has sponsorship, approval, performance, characteristics, accessories, uses, or benefits it does not have which the supplier knows or should



10

11

12

13

14

1	
1	reasonably know it does not have.
2	(2) That such subject of a consumer transaction is of a particular
3	standard, quality, grade, style, or model, if it is not and if the
4	supplier knows or should reasonably know that it is not.
5	(3) That such subject of a consumer transaction is new or unused,
6	if it is not and if the supplier knows or should reasonably know
7	that it is not.
8	(4) That such subject of a consumer transaction will be supplied
9	to the public in greater quantity than the supplier intends or
10	reasonably expects.
11	(5) That replacement or repair constituting the subject of a
12	consumer transaction is needed, if it is not and if the supplier
13	knows or should reasonably know that it is not.
14	(6) That a specific price advantage exists as to such subject of a
15	consumer transaction, if it does not and if the supplier knows or
16	should reasonably know that it does not.
17	(7) That the supplier has a sponsorship, approval, or affiliation in
18	such consumer transaction the supplier does not have, and which
19	the supplier knows or should reasonably know that the supplier
20	does not have.
21	(8) That such consumer transaction involves or does not involve
22	a warranty, a disclaimer of warranties, or other rights, remedies,
23	or obligations, if the representation is false and if the supplier
24	knows or should reasonably know that the representation is false.
25	(9) That the consumer will receive a rebate, discount, or other
26	benefit as an inducement for entering into a sale or lease in return
27	for giving the supplier the names of prospective consumers or
28	otherwise helping the supplier to enter into other consumer
29	transactions, if earning the benefit, rebate, or discount is
30	contingent upon the occurrence of an event subsequent to the time
31	the consumer agrees to the purchase or lease.
32	(10) That the supplier is able to deliver or complete the subject of
33	the consumer transaction within a stated period of time, when the
34	supplier knows or should reasonably know the supplier could not.
35	If no time period has been stated by the supplier, there is a
36	presumption that the supplier has represented that the supplier
37	will deliver or complete the subject of the consumer transaction
38	within a reasonable time, according to the course of dealing or the
39	usage of the trade.
40	(11) That the consumer will be able to purchase the subject of the



42

2024

does not intend to sell it.

consumer transaction as advertised by the supplier, if the supplier

1	(12) That the replacement or repair constituting the subject of a
2	consumer transaction can be made by the supplier for the estimate
3	the supplier gives a customer for the replacement or repair, if the
4	specified work is completed and:
5	(A) the cost exceeds the estimate by an amount equal to or
6	greater than ten percent (10%) of the estimate;
7	(B) the supplier did not obtain written permission from the
8	customer to authorize the supplier to complete the work even
9	if the cost would exceed the amounts specified in clause (A);
10	(C) the total cost for services and parts for a single transaction
11	is more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750); and
12	(D) the supplier knew or reasonably should have known that
13	the cost would exceed the estimate in the amounts specified in
14	clause (A).
15	(13) That the replacement or repair constituting the subject of a
16	consumer transaction is needed, and that the supplier disposes of
17	the part repaired or replaced earlier than seventy-two (72) hours
18	after both:
19	(A) the customer has been notified that the work has been
20	completed; and
21	(B) the part repaired or replaced has been made available for
22	examination upon the request of the customer.
23	(14) Engaging in the replacement or repair of the subject of a
24	consumer transaction if the consumer has not authorized the
25	replacement or repair, and if the supplier knows or should
26	reasonably know that it is not authorized.
27	(15) The act of misrepresenting the geographic location of the
28	supplier by listing an alternate business name or an assumed
29	business name (as described in IC 23-0.5-3-4) in a local telephone
30	directory if:
31	(A) the name misrepresents the supplier's geographic location;
32	(B) the listing fails to identify the locality and state of the
33	supplier's business;
34	(C) calls to the local telephone number are routinely forwarded
35	or otherwise transferred to a supplier's business location that
36	is outside the calling area covered by the local telephone
37	directory; and
38	(D) the supplier's business location is located in a county that
39	is not contiguous to a county in the calling area covered by the
40	local telephone directory.
41	(16) The act of listing an alternate business name or assumed



2024

business name (as described in IC 23-0.5-3-4) in a directory

1	assistance data base if:
2	(A) the name misrepresents the supplier's geographic location
3	(B) calls to the local telephone number are routinely forwarded
4	or otherwise transferred to a supplier's business location tha
5	is outside the local calling area; and
6	(C) the supplier's business location is located in a county tha
7	is not contiguous to a county in the local calling area.
8	(17) The violation by a supplier of IC 24-3-4 concerning
9	cigarettes for import or export.
10	(18) The act of a supplier in knowingly selling or reselling a
1	product to a consumer if the product has been recalled, whether
12	by the order of a court or a regulatory body, or voluntarily by the
13	manufacturer, distributor, or retailer, unless the product has beer
14	repaired or modified to correct the defect that was the subject of
15	the recall.
16	(19) The violation by a supplier of 47 U.S.C. 227, including any
17	rules or regulations issued under 47 U.S.C. 227.
18	(20) The violation by a supplier of the federal Fair Deb
19	Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692 et seq.), including any
20	rules or regulations issued under the federal Fair Debt Collection
21	Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692 et seq.).
22	(21) A violation of IC 24-5-7 (concerning health spa services), as
23	set forth in IC 24-5-7-17.
23 24	(22) A violation of IC 24-5-8 (concerning business opportunity
25	transactions), as set forth in IC 24-5-8-20.
26	(23) A violation of IC 24-5-10 (concerning home consumer
27	transactions), as set forth in IC 24-5-10-18.
28	(24) A violation of IC 24-5-11 (concerning real property
29	improvement contracts), as set forth in IC 24-5-11-14.
30	(25) A violation of IC 24-5-12 (concerning telephone
31	solicitations), as set forth in IC 24-5-12-23.
32	(26) A violation of IC 24-5-13.5 (concerning buyback motor
33	vehicles), as set forth in IC 24-5-13.5-14.
34	(27) A violation of IC 24-5-14 (concerning automatic
35	dialing-announcing devices), as set forth in IC 24-5-14-13.
36	(28) A violation of IC 24-5-15 (concerning credit services
37	organizations), as set forth in IC 24-5-15-11.
38	(29) A violation of IC 24-5-16 (concerning unlawful motor
39	vehicle subleasing), as set forth in IC 24-5-16-18.
10	(30) A violation of IC 24-5-17 (concerning environmenta
1 1	marketing claims), as set forth in IC 24-5-17-14.
12.	(31) A violation of IC 24-5-19 (concerning decentive commercia



1	solicitation), as set forth in IC 24-5-19-11.
2	(32) A violation of IC 24-5-21 (concerning prescription drug
3	discount cards), as set forth in IC 24-5-21-7.
4	(33) A violation of IC 24-5-23.5-7 (concerning real estate
5	appraisals), as set forth in IC 24-5-23.5-9.
6	(34) A violation of IC 24-5-26 (concerning identity theft), as set
7	forth in IC 24-5-26-3.
8	(35) A violation of IC 24-5.5 (concerning mortgage rescue fraud),
9	as set forth in IC 24-5.5-6-1.
10	(36) A violation of IC 24-8 (concerning promotional gifts and
11	contests), as set forth in IC 24-8-6-3.
12	(37) A violation of IC 21-18.5-6 (concerning representations
13	made by a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
14	institution), as set forth in IC 21-18.5-6-22.5.
15	(38) A violation of IC 24-5-15.5 (concerning collection actions of
16	a plaintiff debt buyer), as set forth in IC 24-5-15.5-6.
17	(39) A violation of IC 24-14 (concerning towing services), as set
18	forth in IC 24-14-10-1.
19	(40) A violation of IC 24-5-14.5 (concerning misleading or
20	inaccurate caller identification information), as set forth in
21	IC 24-5-14.5-12.
22	(41) A violation of IC 24-5-27 (concerning intrastate inmate
23	calling services), as set forth in IC 24-5-27-27.
24	(42) A violation of IC 24-16-2 (concerning mobile smart
25	devices), as set forth in IC 24-16-2-3.
26	(43) A violation of IC 24-17-2 (concerning social media
27	providers), as set forth in IC 24-17-2-3.
28	(c) Any representations on or within a product or its packaging or
29	in advertising or promotional materials which would constitute a
30	deceptive act shall be the deceptive act both of the supplier who places
31	such representation thereon or therein, or who authored such materials,
32	and such other suppliers who shall state orally or in writing that such
33	representation is true if such other supplier shall know or have reason
34	to know that such representation was false.
35	(d) If a supplier shows by a preponderance of the evidence that an
36	act resulted from a bona fide error notwithstanding the maintenance of
37	procedures reasonably adopted to avoid the error, such act shall not be
38	deceptive within the meaning of this chapter.
39	(e) It shall be a defense to any action brought under this chapter that

the representation constituting an alleged deceptive act was one made

in good faith by the supplier without knowledge of its falsity and in

reliance upon the oral or written representations of the manufacturer,



40

41

42

1	the person from whom the supplier acquired the product, any testing
2	organization, or any other person provided that the source thereof is
3	disclosed to the consumer.
4	(f) For purposes of subsection (b)(12), a supplier that provides
5	estimates before performing repair or replacement work for a customer
6	shall give the customer a written estimate itemizing as closely as
7	possible the price for labor and parts necessary for the specific job
8	before commencing the work.
9	(g) For purposes of subsection (b)(15) and (b)(16), a telephone
10	company or other provider of a telephone directory or directory
11	assistance service or its officer or agent is immune from liability for
12	publishing the listing of an alternate business name or assumed
13	business name of a supplier in its directory or directory assistance data
14	base unless the telephone company or other provider of a telephone
15	directory or directory assistance service is the same person as the
16	supplier who has committed the deceptive act.
17	(h) For purposes of subsection (b)(18), it is an affirmative defense
18	to any action brought under this chapter that the product has been
19	altered by a person other than the defendant to render the product
20	completely incapable of serving its original purpose.
21	SECTION 2. IC 24-16 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
22 23	A NEW ARTICLE TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
23 24	2024]: ARTICLE 16. MOBILE SMART DEVICES
25	
	Chapter 1. Definitions
26	Sec. 1. The definitions in this chapter apply throughout this
27 28	article.
28 29	Sec. 2. "Activate", with regard to a mobile smart device, means
30	to: (1) power the mobile smart device on; and
31	* * *
32	(2) associate the mobile smart device with a new user account; in Indiana.
33	Sec. 3. "Adult content filter" means software integrated into the
34	operating system of a mobile smart device that, when enabled,
35	
36	functions to prevent the mobile smart device from accessing
	obscene matter through the Internet.
37 38	Sec. 4. "Manufacturer", with regard to a mobile smart device,
38 39	means a person that:
39 40	(1) is engaged in the business of producing and marketing the
	omanie zmali nevice.

(2) holds one (1) or more patents associated with the mobile

smart device; and



41

42

I	(3) creates or selects the software used as the operating system
2	of the mobile smart device.
3	Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "minor" means an individual
4	who is less than eighteen (18) years of age.
5	Sec. 6. "Mobile smart device" means a handheld device that:
6	(1) is capable of operating wirelessly while powered by an
7	internal or attached battery; and
8	(2) incorporates software that enables a user of the device to
9	access information on the Internet.
10	Sec. 7. "Obscene matter" means matter described in
11	IC 35-49-2-1.
12	Chapter 2. Adult Content Filtering
13	Sec. 1. This chapter applies to a mobile smart device:
14	(1) that is sold in Indiana after January 1, 2025; and
15	(2) the operating system of which includes an adult content
16	filter.
17	Sec. 2. The manufacturer of a mobile smart device described in
18	section 1 of this chapter shall make a good faith effort to prevent
19	the use of the mobile smart device by a minor to access obscene
20	matter by configuring the operating system of the mobile smart
21	device:
22 23	(1) such that the mobile smart device's adult content filter is
23	enabled upon activation of the mobile smart device; and
24	(2) in a manner that reasonably ensures that a minor cannot
25	disable the adult content filter.
26	Sec. 3. (a) A manufacturer that knowingly and intentionally
27	violates section 2 of this chapter commits an act that is:
28	(1) actionable by the attorney general; and
29	(2) subject to the remedies and penalties available to the
30	attorney general;
31	under IC 24-5-0.5.
32	(b) A manufacturer commits a separate violation of section 2 of
33	this chapter for each sale in Indiana of a mobile smart device
34	produced and marketed by the manufacturer that:
35	(1) is described in section 1 of this chapter; and
36	(2) is not configured as required by section 2 of this chapter.
37	SECTION 3. IC 24-17 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
38	A NEW ARTICLE TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
39	2024]:
40	ARTICLE 17. SOCIAL MEDIA PROVIDERS
41	Chapter 1. Definitions
42	Sec. 1. The definitions in this chapter apply throughout this



1	article.
2	Sec. 2. "Linked account", with respect to an individual's
3	account with a social media service, means another account with
4	the social media service with regard to which the individual
5	indicates, through a means provided by the social media service,
6	any of the following:
7	(1) That the individual wishes to access content disseminated
8	by the account.
9	(2) That the individual wishes the social media service to
10	include the account's content in recommendations or
11	notifications provided to the individual by the social media
12	service.
13	(3) That the individual wishes to associate the individual's
14	account with the other account.
15	Sec. 3. "Minor" means an individual who is less than eighteen
16	(18) years of age.
17	Sec. 4. (a) "Social media" means an Internet website or
18	application that:
19	(1) is open to the public;
20	(2) allows a user to create an account; and
21	(3) enables a user to communicate with other users for the
22	primary purpose of:
23	(A) posting information, comments, messages, images, or
24	videos; or
25	(B) collaborative online gaming.
26	(b) The term does not include:
27	(1) a broadband Internet access service as defined by the
28	Federal Communications Commission;
29	(2) electronic mail service; or
30	(3) an online service, application, or website:
31	(A) that consists primarily of news, sports, entertainment,
32	or other information or content that is not user generated
33	but is preselected by the provider; and
34	(B) for which any chat, comment, or other interactive
35	functionality is incidental to, directly related to, or
36	dependent on the provision of the information or content
37	described in clause (A).
38	Sec. 5. "Social media provider" or "provider" means a person
39	that:
40	(1) owns or operates a social media service;
41	(2) provides public access to the social media service; and
42	(3) receives consideration:



1	(A) from users of the social media service;
2	(B) from third parties in exchange for the opportunity to
3	disseminate advertising or marketing messages through
4	the social media service; or
5	(C) from third parties in exchange for access to
6	information:
7	(i) regarding or generated by users of the social media
8	service; or
9	(ii) regarding patterns of use of the social media service.
10	Chapter 2. Minor Use of Social Media
11	Sec. 1. A social media provider that receives a request for
12	creation of an account with the provider's social media service
13	shall comply with the following:
14	(1) The provider shall determine the age of the individual
15	requesting creation of the account by:
16	(A) requiring the individual to submit one (1) or more of:
17	(i) a mobile credential (as defined by IC 9-13-2-103.4) or
18	other government issued identification; or
19	(ii) financial documents or other documents that reliably
20	verify an individual's age; or
21	(B) receipt of the results of another reliable age
22	verification method, including:
23	(i) age verification performed by a third party; or
24	(ii) age verification that is incorporated into the device
24 25	through which the individual accesses the social media
26	service.
27	(2) If the provider determines under subdivision (1) that the
28	individual requesting creation of the account is a minor, the
29	provider may create the account only if the provider receives
30	from the minor's parent, guardian, or custodian:
31	(A) written consent to creation of the account; and
32	(B) a written attestation, made under the penalty of
33	perjury, affirming that the individual is the minor's
34	parent, guardian, or custodian.
35	(3) If, after receiving written consent from the minor's parent,
36	guardian, or custodian under subdivision (2), a provider
37	creates an account for a minor, the provider shall
38	electronically provide to the parent, guardian, or custodian,
39	in a form that is clear and readable, a copy of the report
40	entitled Social Media and Youth Mental Health, issued by the
41	Surgeon General of the United States on May 23, 2023.
42	Sec. 2. (a) A social media provider owes a duty of care to a



1	registered user of the provider's social media service that the
2	provider knows, or reasonably should know, is a minor.
3	(b) Subject to subsection (c), a social media provider shall
4	implement reasonable measures in the design and operation of the
5	features of the provider's social media service to mitigate the
6	possibility of a minor's use of the social media service resulting in,
7	or increasing the likelihood of, the minor experiencing any of the
8	following harms:
9	(1) Excessive or compulsive use of the social media service.
10	(2) Physical violence.
11	(3) Bullying.
12	(4) Harassment.
13	(5) Sexual exploitation or abuse.
14	(6) Exposure to:
15	(A) obscene matter (as described in IC 35-49-2-1);
16	(B) promotion or marketing of controlled substances,
17	tobacco products, alcohol, or gambling; and
18	(C) predatory, unfair, or deceptive marketing practices.
19	(7) Financial harm.
20	(c) A social media provider:
21	(1) is not required under subsection (b) to prevent or
22	constrain a minor from using the provider's social media
23	service to search for or receive; and
24	(2) is not prohibited under subsection (b) from providing a
25	minor with;
26	information regarding prevention or mitigation of the harms listed
27	in subsection (b).
28	(d) A social media provider shall configure the account of a
29	registered user of the provider's social media service that the
30	provider knows, or reasonably should know, is a minor as follows:
31	(1) The provider may allow the account to receive direct
32	communications only from an account that the user has
33	designated as a linked account.
34	(2) The provider shall allow access to a feature meeting any of
35	the following descriptions only upon affirmative activation of
36	the feature by the user:
37	(A) A feature that encourages excessive or compulsive use
38	of the social media service, including:
39	(i) a feature that rewards the user based on the amount
40	of time the user spends using the social media service;
41	(ii) delivery of automated notifications to the user; and
42	(iii) automatic playing of audio or video media.



1	(B) A feature that disseminates to the user:
2	(i) content;
3	(ii) recommendations for content; or
4	(iii) advertising;
5	based on patterns of the user's use of the service.
6	(C) A feature that allows geolocation of the user.
7	(3) The provider shall provide the user with a means of
8	limiting the types or categories of content that the provider
9	disseminates or recommends to the user through a feature
10	described in subdivision (2)(B).
11	(4) The social media service shall provide functionality that
12	allows access to the account to be:
13	(A) limited by duration; or
14	(B) limited to specified times.
15	(5) The social media service shall provide an easily
16	understandable and readily available means by which the
17	parent, guardian, or custodian of the user can:
18	(A) modify:
19	(i) the privacy settings of the account;
20	(ii) the ability of the user to make purchases and other
21	financial transactions through the account; and
22	(iii) any configuration of the account described in
23	subdivisions (1) through (4); and
24	(B) view data regarding account activity, including times
25	and duration of account activity.
26	(e) A social media provider may not disclose persona
27	information (as defined in IC 4-1-6-1) of a registered user of the
28	social media service that the provider knows, or reasonably should
29	know, is a minor.
30	(f) A social media provider shall provide a registered user of the
31	provider's social media service that the social media service knows
32	or reasonably should know, is a minor with an easily
33	understandable and readily available means of deleting the minor's
34	account and any information associated with the account.
35	Sec. 3. A social media provider that knowingly and intentionally
36	violates section 1 of this chapter commits a deceptive act that is:
37	(1) actionable by the attorney general; and
38	(2) subject to the penalties and remedies available to the
39	attorney general;
10	under IC 24-5-0.5.

