

**As Passed by the House**

**135th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2023-2024**

**H. B. No. 17**

**Representatives Schmidt, Swearingen**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Johnson, Holmes, Seitz, Loychik, Jordan, LaRe, Carruthers, Brennan, Richardson, Gross, Abrams, Barhorst, Callender, Creech, Cutrona, Dobos, Ghanbari, Hall, John, Jones, Kick, Mathews, Miller, K., Miller, M., Oelslager, Pavliga, Peterson, Ray, Robb Blasdel, Willis**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 125.183 of the Revised Code to  
prohibit state officials, employees, and  
contractors from using TikTok, WeChat, or any  
other application or service owned by an entity  
located in China.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 125.183 of the Revised Code be  
enacted to read as follows:

**Sec. 125.183.** (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Covered application" means all of the following:

(a) The TikTok application and service or any successor  
application or service developed or provided by ByteDance  
limited or an entity owned by ByteDance limited;

(b) The WeChat application and service or any successor  
application or service developed or provided by Tencent holdings  
limited or an entity owned by Tencent holdings limited;

(c) Any application or service owned by an entity located 16  
in China, including QQ International (QQi), Qzone, Weibo, Xiao 17  
HongShu, Zhihu, Meituan, Toutiao, Alipay, Xiami Music, Tiantian 18  
Music, DingTalkfDing Ding, Douban, RenRen, Youku/Tudou, Little 19  
Red Book, and Zhihu. 20

(2) "State agency" means every organized body, office, or 21  
agency established by the laws of this state for the exercise of 22  
any function of state government, other than any state-supported 23  
institution of higher education, the courts, or any judicial 24  
agency. "State agency" includes the general assembly, any 25  
legislative agency, and the capitol square review and advisory 26  
board. 27

(B) Subject to division (C) of this section, the state 28  
chief information officer shall adopt rules under Chapter 119. 29  
of the Revised Code to do all of the following: 30

(1) Require state agencies immediately to remove any 31  
covered application from all equipment they own or lease; 32

(2) Prohibit all of the following on equipment owned or 33  
leased by a state agency: 34

(a) The downloading, installation, or use of a covered 35  
application; 36

(b) The downloading, installation, or use of a covered 37  
application using an internet connection provided by a state 38  
agency; 39

(c) The downloading, installation, or use of a covered 40  
application by any officer, employee, or contractor of a state 41  
agency. 42

(3) Require state agencies to take measures to prevent the 43

downloading, installation, or use of a covered application as 44  
described in division (B)(2) of this section. 45

(C) The rules adopted under division (B) of this section 46  
shall include exceptions to allow a qualified person to 47  
download, install, or use a covered application for law 48  
enforcement or information technology security purposes, so long 49  
as the person takes appropriate measures to mitigate the 50  
security risks involved in doing so. 51

(D) Notwithstanding any provision of section 121.95 of the 52  
Revised Code to the contrary, a regulatory restriction contained 53  
in a rule adopted under this section is not subject to sections 54  
121.95 to 121.953 of the Revised Code. 55