BILL SUMMARY

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: SB1959
Version: Engrossed
Request Number: NA
Author: Rep. Hasenbeck
Date: 4/5/2024
Impact: Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

SB 1959 provides that any commercial entity that knowingly and intentionally publishes or distributes obscene material, or material that depicts or promotes child pornography or child sexual exploitation, on the Internet may be held liable to an individual for nominal damages, actual damages, court costs, and reasonable attorney fees. Any commercial entity that knowingly and intentionally publishes or distributes material harmful to minors on the Internet must provide Internet service subscribers and cellular service subscribers an opportunity to request that access to the harmful material be denied. Once requested, the commercial entity must block access to the its website on any device seeking to access its website using the subscriber's Internet service or cellular service subscription so that a minor does not receive material via that subscription. The measure provides that a commercial entity which performs reasonable age verification methods to not be held liable for allowing access to its website. The Attorney General is allowed to seek injunctive relief against a commercial entity that fails to comply.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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