

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6789
BILL NUMBER: HB 1178

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 29, 2025
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Minor Access to Social Media.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. King
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Social Media Providers* - This bill provides that a social media provider that meets specified conditions (provider) may not create an account for an individual who is less than 14 years of age (minor) unless the provider receives verifiable parental consent to creation of the account from a parent of the minor.

It requires a provider that creates an account for a minor to: (1) provide the minor's parent with the option of receiving a separate password that allows the parent to set limits on the minor's use of the account; and (2) configure the account in a specified manner, including by disabling access by the account holder to specified features and functionality of the social media platform.

It requires a provider to: (1) periodically verify the age of each Indiana account holder; and (2) terminate an account if: (A) the provider determines that the Indiana account holder is a minor; and (B) the provider did not receive verifiable parental consent for the creation of the account; subject to a specified process by which an account holder may dispute the provider's determination.

It requires a provider to: (1) provide a minor account holder and the minor's parent with a clearly explained, simple to use, and easily accessible means of terminating the minor's account; and (2) terminate the minor's account within a specified time after receiving a request for the account's termination.

It also provides requirements for a provider's use and retention of information provided to the provider for purposes of verifiable parental consent.

Violations - The bill provides that a provider that creates or maintains an account for a minor in violation of these requirements is subject to a civil action by the minor or a parent of the minor, and specifies remedies available to a prevailing plaintiff in such an action. It also provides that the Attorney General may independently enforce these requirements under the Attorney General's authority to enforce Indiana law regarding unfair trade practices.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Deceptive Acts:* This bill adds to the list of unfair and deceptive acts that are actionable by the Attorney General. Agency workload could increase to investigate and prosecute allegations. The Attorney General should be able to enforce the bill's provisions within existing resource levels.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Deceptive Acts:* If the bill increases the number of deceptive acts discovered, General Fund revenue will increase. Actual increases in revenue are unknown but expected to be small. Deceptive acts discovered by the Attorney General carry a civil penalty up to \$5,000.

Court Fee Revenue: If additional civil cases occur and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund will increase. The total revenue per case would range between \$100 and \$122. The amount deposited will vary depending on whether the case is filed in a court of record or a municipal court. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.](#)

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Court Fee Revenue:* If additional cases occur, revenue will be collected by certain local units. If the case is filed in a court of record, the county will receive \$32 and qualifying municipalities will receive a share of \$3. If the case is filed in a municipal court, the county receives \$20, and the municipality will receive \$37. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.](#)

State Agencies Affected: Office of the Attorney General.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts.

Information Sources: Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana Trial Court Fee Manual.

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