

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING
ACR 224 (Dixon and Bauer-Kahan)
As Introduced June 10, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Designates June 23, 2026, as Social Media Harms Victim Remembrance Day in the State of California to honor the individuals who have lost their lives and have suffered harm because of social media; and, reaffirms the commitment to protecting individuals from harm in digital spaces and promoting a culture of respect, empathy, and responsibility online.

Major Provisions

- 1) The internet has revolutionized the ability to exchange information, improved the accessibility of education, reduced the costs of health care through telehealth, and stimulated the national economy by providing millions of jobs and trillions of dollars in gross product each year.
- 2) Social media has become central to modern communication, bringing together people from across the globe. Social media presents significant risks, especially to adolescents, including the perpetuation and promotion of harmful and dangerous behaviors and connections.
- 3) Teenagers spend at least eight hours on screens per day, on average. 93% of teenagers use social media. 53% of teenagers spend nearly five hours on social media each day.
- 4) Countless individuals and families have suffered harms, including death, because of experiences on social media platforms, including cyberbullying, harassment, exposure to sex trafficking, and exploitation.
- 5) Social media has been linked to an increase in illicit drug poisoning and overdose-related deaths. Social media use has been linked to self-harming behavior and suicidal ideation in youth.
- 6) It is vital to recognize and honor the experiences of those who have been harmed by social media, including the victims, survivors, and their families.
- 7) Commemorating Social Media Harms Victim Remembrance Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of social media and to advocate for measures to effectively mitigate these harms.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

As technology continues to shape nearly every aspect of daily life, social media has become a constant presence, particularly for young people. At the same time, we are witnessing a troubling rise in mental health challenges among youth and adolescents, including anxiety, depression, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum disorder, and body dysmorphic disorder. A growing body of research has identified clear links between social

media use and these harms. The legislature has a responsibility to act and must introduce policies to address social media harms and protect users. ACR 224 designates June 23, 2026, as Social Media Harms Victim Remembrance to honor the individuals who have lost their lives and have suffered harm because of social media.

Arguments in Support

None on file

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

No fiscal impact. This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

VOTES

ASM RULES: 10-0-0

YES: Pacheco, Lackey, Ahrens, Dixon, Garcia, Mark González, Irwin, Michelle Rodriguez, Ta, Zbur

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