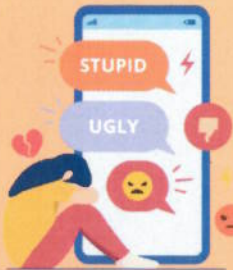




## H.B. 464 Social Media Regulation Act Amendments



### Background



During the last session, the legislature passed two landmark bills to protect children on social media platforms. Given the complexity of this legal area involving First Amendment rights, Section 230, case law predating the internet age, interstate commerce, etc., the implementation of the legislation was delayed until the end of the 2024 general session. This delay allows time to address the issues thoroughly and make any necessary changes before implementation. The bill is the result of this extensive work. By addressing these challenges and ensuring that our regulations are appropriately tailored to avoid legal pitfalls, we can best protect our kids.

### What does this bill do?

- Gives minors and their parents or legal guardians the ability to hold social media companies liable for the harm addictive algorithms have caused children through a private right of action.
- Allows social media companies to legally overcome the assumption that their products cause harm if they:
  - Limit a minor's time on the platform to less than 3 hours/day
  - Restrict platform usage between 10:30 PM and 6:30 AM.
  - Disable engagement-driven design elements.
  - Obtain parental permission.

### By the Numbers:

- **88%** of Utah parents believe social media has a detrimental impact on children and youth, and **33%** of Utah youth felt sad or hopeless for two weeks or more in a row during the last year.
- Teens who spend more than **3 hours per day on social media** face double the risk of experiencing poor mental health outcomes.
- Nearly half of teens aged 13 to 17 said using social media makes them feel worse.
- 63% of Utah parents were concerned about social media impacting their child's mental health.
- **18%** of Utah youth seriously considered suicide in the past year.
- **Only 38%** of Utah teens are getting at least eight hours of sleep on an average school night.
- 60% of teen girls say they've been contacted on social media by a stranger in ways that made them feel uncomfortable.

