

## HJR009S01 compared with HJR009

~~{deleted text}~~ shows text that was in HJR009 but was deleted in HJR009S01.

inserted text shows text that was not in HJR009 but was inserted into HJR009S01.

**DISCLAIMER:** This document is provided to assist you in your comparison of the two bills. Sometimes this automated comparison will NOT be completely accurate. Therefore, you need to read the actual bills. This automatically generated document could contain inaccuracies caused by: limitations of the compare program; bad input data; or other causes.

Representative Susan Pulsipher proposes the following substitute bill:

### JOINT RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN APPLICATION RATINGS BOARD FOR INTERNET READY DEVICES

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Susan Pulsipher**

Senate Sponsor: ~~{\_\_\_\_\_}~~ Todd Weiler

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#### LONG TITLE

##### General Description:

This ~~{bill calls for the establishment of an application ratings board to enforce consistent and accurate age and content ratings}~~ joint resolution calls on the United States Congress to make recommendations to vendors and distributors of applications ~~{on internet-ready devices }~~ and ~~{calls on}~~ to leading technology companies ~~{to ensure the implementation of user-friendly and streamlined parental controls on devices used by minors}~~.

##### Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ calls on ~~{technology and application development companies to establish an}~~ the

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United States Congress to recommend that vendors and distributors of applications establish an independent application ratings board, comprised of industry representatives, child development, child protection, and internet safety subject matter experts to:

- establish new criteria for what types of application content and in-application risks result in specified age-appropriate application ratings;
  - review application ratings and descriptions of the most downloaded applications and the downloadable content of those applications; and
  - impose sanctions for noncompliance; and
- calls on leading technology companies to:
- manufacture internet-ready devices ~~{, including iPhones, Android devices, and Chromebooks,}~~ with user-friendly parental controls;
  - close loopholes that permit the bypassing of parental controls;
  - build in age-based, default safety settings; and
  - provide selective application shutoff for bedtime and school hours.

### Special Clauses:

None

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*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

WHEREAS, internet-ready devices, and the applications that run on such devices, are used by millions of minors daily;

WHEREAS, ~~{the most}~~some downloaded applications often include content that is not consistent with the age rating, content descriptors, interactive elements, or description of such applications;

WHEREAS, clarity on the rating of applications is a critical part of social responsibility on the part of ~~{leading technology companies}~~vendors and distributors of applications when including applications in their database for their users to download;

WHEREAS, parents of minors deserve transparency and accuracy on the ratings of applications and the meaning behind those ratings;

WHEREAS, no third-party organization is holding ~~{application developers}~~vendors and distributors of applications accountable to ensure that application age ratings are consistent

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and accurate across devices and that application descriptions adequately explain the content and advertising available to minors in such applications;

WHEREAS, no third-party organization has the authority to impose sanctions for nondisclosures related to application content and advertising;

WHEREAS, applications contain unique risks of both exposure to content and predators, so a specific application rating system that takes these unique risk factors into account is needed;

WHEREAS, social media is increasingly being used to recruit and sexually exploit young users for sexual abuse or sex trafficking;

WHEREAS, social media is increasingly used for sexual harassment and sexualized bullying, including sending unsolicited sexually explicit images, repeated requests for sexually explicit imagery, sexual images that are not consensually shared, and unwanted exposure to pornographic images;

WHEREAS, recent studies indicate that excessive use of social media, particularly in young girls, can lead to an increase in depressive symptoms;

WHEREAS, suicide rates, depression, and mental health issues among adolescents in the United States have been found to increase as social media use has surged within the same age group;

WHEREAS, many providers and users of interactive computer services covered by the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. Sec. 230 et seq., as amended through February 8, 1996, have failed to comply with basic best business practices in connection with the protection of minors from harmful content, therefore instigating interest in a review of the status of such providers and users under 47 U.S.C. Sec. 230 unless the business practices of such providers and users come into alignment with reasonable care and best business practices of such providers and users appropriate for protecting minors;

WHEREAS, popular applications often do not include parental controls or have inadequate parental controls;

WHEREAS, the parental controls provided on internet-ready devices are often insufficient, ignore the age of users, contain loopholes, and are difficult to implement, leaving minors unprotected from sexual abuse and exploitation; and

WHEREAS, the improper use of internet-ready devices during school hours contributes

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to student distraction and lower test scores and the use of such devices during bedtime hours can lead to sleep disturbance:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah:

(1) calls on ~~{technology and application development companies to establish an}~~the United States Congress to recommend that vendors and distributors of applications establish an independent application ratings board, comprised of industry representatives, child development, child protection, and internet safety subject matter experts to:

(a) establish new criteria for what types of application content and in-application risks result in specified age-appropriate application ratings;

(b) review application ratings and descriptions of the most downloaded applications and the downloadable content of those applications; and

(c) impose sanctions for noncompliance; and

(2) calls on leading technology companies to:

(a) manufacture internet-ready devices~~{, including iPhones, Android devices, and Chromebooks,}~~ with user-friendly parental controls;

(b) close loopholes that permit the bypassing of parental controls;

(c) build in age-based, default safety settings; and

(d) provide selective application shutoff for bedtime and school hours.