

SENATE BILL 897

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5l3226
CF 5l1122

By: **Senator Love**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary and Secondary Education – Student Technology and Social Media**
3 **Resource Guide**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the National Center for School Mental Health at the
5 University of Maryland School of Medicine, in consultation with the State
6 Department of Education, to develop and publish a student technology and social
7 media resource guide for public school students in a certain manner; requiring the
8 guide to be distributed for certain school years in a certain manner and updated each
9 year; and generally relating to a student technology and social media resource guide
10 for public school students.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Education

13 Section 7–2201 through 7–2205 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 22. Student
14 Technology and Social Media Resource Guide”

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Education**

20 **SUBTITLE 22. STUDENT TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCE GUIDE.**

21 **7–2201.**

22 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
23 **INDICATED.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) “CENTER” MEANS THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOOL MENTAL**
2 **HEALTH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.**

3 **(C) “GUIDE” MEANS THE STUDENT TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA**
4 **RESOURCE GUIDE.**

5 **7–2202.**

6 **(A) (1) BEGINNING IN THE 2027–2028 SCHOOL YEAR, THE NATIONAL**
7 **CENTER FOR SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**
8 **SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT, SHALL**
9 **DEVELOP AND PUBLISH A STUDENT TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCE**
10 **GUIDE THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION**
11 **AND § 7–2203 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

12 **(2) FOR THE 2027–2028 SCHOOL YEAR, THE GUIDE SHALL COVER**
13 **COMMONLY USED TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS FOR PERSONAL USE BY CHILDREN.**

14 **(3) FOR THE 2028–2029 SCHOOL YEAR, THE GUIDE SHALL COVER THE**
15 **INFORMATION UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND COMMONLY USED**
16 **TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS USED IN EDUCATION DELIVERY TO CHILDREN.**

17 **(4) FOR THE 2029–2030 SCHOOL YEAR, THE GUIDE SHALL BE**
18 **PUBLISHED INTO A MULTIMEDIA PRODUCT COVERING THE INFORMATION UNDER**
19 **PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

20 **(B) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, THE CENTER SHALL COMPLETE A**
21 **NEEDS ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY:**

22 **(1) EXISTING STATE AND FEDERAL RESOURCES TO ASSIST IN**
23 **DEVELOPING THE GUIDE;**

24 **(2) EXISTING EFFORTS TO EDUCATE FAMILIES ON THE IMPACT OF**
25 **TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA ON THE MENTAL HEALTH OF YOUTH IN THE**
26 **STATE; AND**

27 **(3) GAPS IN THE EXISTING RESOURCES AND EDUCATION EFFORTS.**

28 **(C) THE GUIDE DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE:**

29 **(1) AGE–APPROPRIATE INFORMATION AND BEST PRACTICES THAT:**

1 **(I) ENCOURAGE STUDENTS AND CAREGIVERS TO UNDERSTAND**
2 **HOW TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA CAN BE USED AND MISUSED BY DEVELOPERS**
3 **AND USERS; AND**

4 **(II) PROMOTE INFORMED DECISION MAKING WHEN USING**
5 **TECHNOLOGY, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND THE INTERNET;**

6 **(2) INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE ON SAFE INTERNET, TECHNOLOGY,**
7 **AND SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE BY STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE**
8 **12, INCLUDING:**

9 **(I) SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS;**

10 **(II) ONLINE GAMES;**

11 **(III) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTS;**

12 **(IV) NON-ALGORITHM-DRIVEN VIRTUAL COMMUNICATION**
13 **PLATFORMS;**

14 **(V) E-COMMERCE PLATFORMS;**

15 **(VI) SMART PHONES;**

16 **(VII) LAPTOPS; AND**

17 **(VIII) ANY OTHER PRODUCT, SERVICE, OR DEVICE AN INDIVIDUAL**
18 **CAN USE TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER INDIVIDUALS THROUGH THE INTERNET;**
19 **AND**

20 **(3) IF THE CENTER FINDS A GAP IN AVAILABLE INFORMATION**
21 **RELATING TO A SPECIFIC CATEGORY OF TECHNOLOGY OR SOCIAL MEDIA, A**
22 **REFERENCE TO THE LACK OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION.**

23 **(D) THE GUIDE MAY INCLUDE OTHER STATE, FEDERAL, NONPROFIT, OR**
24 **PUBLIC RESOURCES.**

25 **7-2203.**

26 **(A) THE GUIDE DEVELOPED UNDER § 7-2202 OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL**
27 **INCLUDE A SERVICE AND PRODUCT LANDSCAPE REVIEW THAT CONTAINS:**

28 **(1) THE NAME OF A SPECIFIC PRODUCT OR SERVICE;**

1 **(2) THE PURPORTED FUNCTION OF THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE;**

2 **(3) ANY PRIVACY, SAFETY, OR SECURITY CONCERNS WITH REGARD TO**
3 **WHETHER AND HOW DATA IS CAPTURED, STORED, OR SHARED BY THE PRODUCT OR**
4 **SERVICE;**

5 **(4) WHETHER THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE AFFECTS ADDICTIVE**
6 **QUALITIES IN A USER AND, IF SO, HOW;**

7 **(5) WAYS IN WHICH A STUDENT IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH**
8 **GRADE 12 COULD ACCESS A SPECIFIC PRODUCT OR SERVICE, INCLUDING WHETHER**
9 **A SPECIFIC PRODUCT OR SERVICE IS AVAILABLE THROUGH A DEVICE PROVIDED BY**
10 **A PUBLIC SCHOOL;**

11 **(6) ANY INFORMATION ON THE POTENTIAL HARMFUL IMPACT ON A**
12 **USER, INCLUDING EMOTIONAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND PHYSICAL IMPACTS; AND**

13 **(7) POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACT POTENTIAL ON ACADEMIC**
14 **GROWTH AND LEARNING.**

15 **(B) (1) THE GUIDE SHALL BE WRITTEN IN PLAIN ENGLISH AND CLEARLY**
16 **DISPLAY CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE CENTER.**

17 **(2) ON REQUEST, THE CENTER SHALL PROVIDE TRANSLATED COPIES**
18 **OF THE GUIDE.**

19 **7-2204.**

20 **FOR THE 2027-2028, 2028-2029, AND 2029-2030 SCHOOL YEARS, ON OR**
21 **BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF EACH SCHOOL YEAR, THE GUIDE SHALL BE:**

22 **(1) POSTED ON THE WEBSITES OF THE DEPARTMENT AND EACH**
23 **COUNTY BOARD;**

24 **(2) UPDATED EACH YEAR BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL**
25 **YEAR; AND**

26 **(3) DISTRIBUTED TO:**

27 **(i) EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL; AND**

1 **(II) THE PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION FOR EACH PUBLIC**
2 **SCHOOL.**
3 **7-2205.**

4 **(A) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN**
5 **APPROPRIATION IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS TO THE CENTER TO FUND THE**
6 **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDENT TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA**
7 **RESOURCE GUIDE:**

8 **(1) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027, \$100,000; AND**

9 **(2) FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2028 AND 2029, \$125,000.**

10 **(B) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE**
11 **CENTER SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT ON THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS USED TO**
12 **CONDUCT RESEARCH ON, DEVELOP, AND UPDATE THE STUDENT TECHNOLOGY AND**
13 **SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCE GUIDE REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE TO THE**
14 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT**
15 **ARTICLE.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2025.