

HOUSE BILL 1179

I3, I4

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By: **Delegates Nkongolo, Arentz, Hornberger, Miller, and Tomlinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2026

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Consumer Protection – Application Store Accountability Act**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing requirements for application store providers and
4 developers; creating requirements for age verification and parental consent;
5 prohibiting application store providers and developers from enforcing certain
6 contracts under certain circumstances; prohibiting application store providers and
7 developers from misrepresenting certain parental consent disclosures; authorizing
8 the Consumer Protection Division in the Office of the Attorney General to adopt
9 certain rules; making a violation of this Act an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade
10 practice that is subject to enforcement and penalties under the Maryland Consumer
11 Protection Act; and generally relating to application store accountability.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Commercial Law
14 Section 13–301(14)(xlvii)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2025 Replacement Volume)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

18 Article – Commercial Law
19 Section 13–301(14)(xlviii)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2025 Replacement Volume)

22 BY adding to

23 Article – Commercial Law
24 Section 13–301(14)(xlix); and 14–5101 through 14–5107 to be under the new subtitle
25 “Subtitle 51. Application Store Accountability Act”
26 Annotated Code of Maryland
27 (2025 Replacement Volume)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Commercial Law**

4 13–301.

5 Unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practices include any:

6 (14) Violation of a provision of:

7 (xlvii) Title 14, Subtitle 50 of this article; [or]

8 (xlviii) Section 13–411.1(c)(2) of the Transportation Article; or

9 **(XLIX) TITLE 14, SUBTITLE 51 OF THIS ARTICLE; OR**

10 **SUBTITLE 51. APPLICATION STORE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT.**

11 **14–5101.**

12 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
13 **INDICATED.**

14 **(B) “ACCOUNT HOLDER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ASSOCIATED WITH**
15 **A MOBILE DEVICE.**

16 **(C) (1) “AGE CATEGORY” MEANS A CATEGORY BASED ON A RANGE OF**
17 **USER AGES.**

18 **(2) “AGE CATEGORY” INCLUDES:**

19 **(I) CHILD;**

20 **(II) YOUNGER TEENAGER;**

21 **(III) OLDER TEENAGER; AND**

22 **(IV) ADULT.**

23 **(D) “AGE CATEGORY DATA” MEANS INFORMATION ABOUT AN ACCOUNT**
24 **HOLDER’S AGE CATEGORY THAT IS COLLECTED BY AN APPLICATION STORE**
25 **PROVIDER AND IS SHARED WITH A DEVELOPER.**

1 (E) "AGE RATING" MEANS ONE OR MORE CLASSIFICATIONS THAT ASSESS
2 THE SUITABILITY OF AN APPLICATION'S CONTENT AND FUNCTIONS FOR DIFFERENT
3 AGE GROUPS.

4 (F) (1) "APPLICATION" MEANS A SOFTWARE APPLICATION OR AN
5 ELECTRONIC SERVICE THAT A USER MAY RUN OR DIRECT ON A MOBILE DEVICE.

6 (2) "APPLICATION" INCLUDES A PRE-INSTALLED APPLICATION ON A
7 MOBILE DEVICE.

8 (G) "APPLICATION STORE" MEANS A PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE,
9 SOFTWARE APPLICATION, OR ELECTRONIC SERVICE THAT ALLOWS ACCOUNT
10 HOLDERS TO DOWNLOAD APPLICATIONS FROM THIRD-PARTY DEVELOPERS ONTO A
11 MOBILE DEVICE.

12 (H) "APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER" MEANS A PERSON THAT OWNS,
13 OPERATES, OR CONTROLS AN APPLICATION STORE THAT ALLOWS ACCOUNT
14 HOLDERS IN THE STATE TO DOWNLOAD APPLICATIONS ONTO A MOBILE DEVICE.

15 (I) "CHILD" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS UNDER 13 YEARS OLD.

16 (J) "CONTENT DESCRIPTION" MEANS A DESCRIPTION OF THE SPECIFIC
17 CONTENT ELEMENTS OR FUNCTIONS THAT INFORMED AN APPLICATION'S AGE
18 RATING.

19 (K) "DEVELOPER" MEANS A PERSON THAT OWNS OR CONTROLS A
20 PRE-INSTALLED APPLICATION ON A MOBILE DEVICE OR AN APPLICATION MADE
21 AVAILABLE THROUGH AN APPLICATION STORE IN THE STATE.

22 (L) "DIVISION" MEANS THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION OF THE
23 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

24 (M) "KNOWINGLY" MEANS TO ACT WITH ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE OR TO ACT
25 WITH KNOWLEDGE FAIRLY INFERRED BASED ON OBJECTIVE CIRCUMSTANCES.

26 (N) (1) "MINOR" MEANS, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF
27 THIS SUBSECTION, A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.

28 (2) "MINOR" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF
29 18 YEARS WHO IS MARRIED OR LEGALLY EMANCIPATED.

30 (O) "MINOR ACCOUNT" MEANS AN ACCOUNT WITH AN APPLICATION STORE
31 PROVIDER THAT:

1 (1) IS ESTABLISHED BY A PERSON FOR THE BENEFIT OF A MINOR; AND

2 (2) IS ASSOCIATED WITH A PARENT ACCOUNT.

3 (P) “MOBILE DEVICE” MEANS A PHONE OR GENERAL PURPOSE TABLET
4 THAT:

5 (1) PROVIDES CELLULAR OR WIRELESS CONNECTIVITY;

6 (2) IS CAPABLE OF CONNECTING TO THE INTERNET;

7 (3) RUNS A MOBILE OPERATING SYSTEM; AND

8 (4) IS CAPABLE OF RUNNING APPLICATIONS THROUGH A MOBILE
9 OPERATING SYSTEM.

10 (Q) “MOBILE OPERATING SYSTEM” MEANS SOFTWARE THAT:

11 (1) MANAGES MOBILE DEVICE HARDWARE RESOURCES;

12 (2) PROVIDES COMMON SERVICES FOR MOBILE DEVICE PROGRAMS;

13 (3) CONTROLS MEMORY ALLOCATION; AND

14 (4) PROVIDES INTERFACES FOR APPLICATIONS TO ACCESS DEVICE
15 FUNCTIONALITY.

16 (R) “OLDER TEENAGER” MEANS A PERSON WHO IS AT LEAST 16 YEARS OLD
17 AND UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.

18 (S) “PARENT” MEANS A PERSON WHO IS REASONABLY BELIEVED TO BE A
19 PARENT, A LEGAL GUARDIAN, A PERSON WITH LEGAL CUSTODY, OR ANY OTHER
20 PERSON WHO HAS THE LEGAL AUTHORITY TO MAKE DECISIONS ON BEHALF OF A
21 MINOR UNDER STATE LAW.

22 (T) “PARENT ACCOUNT” MEANS AN ACCOUNT WITH AN APPLICATION STORE
23 PROVIDER THAT:

24 (1) IS VERIFIED AS ESTABLISHED BY A PERSON WHO THE
25 APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER HAS DETERMINED IS NOT A MINOR THROUGH THE
26 APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER’S AGE VERIFICATION METHODS; AND

1 **(2) MAY BE AFFILIATED WITH ONE OR MORE MINOR ACCOUNTS.**

2 **(U) “PARENTAL CONSENT DISCLOSURE” MEANS INFORMATION PROVIDED**
3 **BY AN APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER THAT INCLUDES:**

4 **(1) IF THE APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER HAS AN AGE RATING FOR**
5 **AN APPLICATION OR IN-APPLICATION PURCHASE, THE AGE RATING FOR THE**
6 **APPLICATION OR IN-APPLICATION PURCHASE;**

7 **(2) IF THE APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER HAS A CONTENT**
8 **DESCRIPTION FOR AN APPLICATION OR IN-APPLICATION PURCHASE, THE CONTENT**
9 **DESCRIPTION FOR THE APPLICATION OR IN-APPLICATION PURCHASE;**

10 **(3) A DESCRIPTION OF:**

11 **(I) THE PERSONAL DATA COLLECTED BY THE APPLICATION**
12 **FROM AN ACCOUNT HOLDER; AND**

13 **(II) THE PERSONAL DATA SHARED BY THE APPLICATION WITH A**
14 **THIRD PARTY; AND**

15 **(III) THE METHODS IMPLEMENTED BY THE DEVELOPER TO**
16 **PROTECT THE PERSONAL DATA THAT IS COLLECTED.**

17 **(V) (1) “PRE-INSTALLED APPLICATION” MEANS AN APPLICATION, OR**
18 **PORTION OF AN APPLICATION, THAT HAS BEEN INSTALLED OR PARTIALLY**
19 **INSTALLED ON A MOBILE DEVICE BEFORE THE CONSUMER USES THE MOBILE**
20 **DEVICE FOR THE FIRST TIME, INCLUDING WEB BROWSERS, SEARCH ENGINES, AND**
21 **MESSAGING APPLICATIONS.**

22 **(2) “PRE-INSTALLED APPLICATION” DOES NOT INCLUDE AN**
23 **APPLICATION THAT IS A DEVICE DRIVER OR THAT ALLOWS A MOBILE DEVICE TO**
24 **PERFORM CORE OPERATIONS IN ORDER TO FUNCTION AS INTENDED.**

25 **(W) “SIGNIFICANT CHANGE” MEANS A MODIFICATION TO THE TERMS OF**
26 **SERVICE OR PRIVACY POLICY FOR AN APPLICATION THAT:**

27 **(1) MATERIALLY ALTERS THE CATEGORIES OF DATA COLLECTED,**
28 **STORED, OR SHARED;**

29 **(2) MATERIALLY ALTERS THE APPLICATION’S AGE RATING OR**
30 **CONTENT DESCRIPTIONS; OR**

1 **(3) INTRODUCES, WHERE NO IN-APPLICATION PURCHASES WERE**
2 **PREVIOUSLY PRESENT:**

3 **(I) IN-APPLICATION PURCHASES; OR**

4 **(II) ADVERTISEMENTS.**

5 **(X) “VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT” MEANS AUTHORIZATION THAT:**

6 **(1) IS PROVIDED BY A PARENT ACCOUNT;**

7 **(2) IS GIVEN AFTER AN APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER HAS CLEARLY**
8 **AND CONSPICUOUSLY PROVIDED THE PARENTAL CONSENT DISCLOSURE AS PART OF**
9 **THE APPLICATION DOWNLOAD, PURCHASE, OR IN-APPLICATION PURCHASE**
10 **PROCESS; AND**

11 **(3) REQUIRES THE PARENT TO MAKE AN AFFIRMATIVE CHOICE TO:**

12 **(I) GRANT CONSENT; OR**

13 **(II) DECLINE CONSENT.**

14 **(Y) “YOUNGER TEENAGER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AT LEAST 13**
15 **YEARS OLD AND YOUNGER THAN 16 YEARS OLD.**

16 **14-5102.**

17 **(A) AT THE TIME AN INDIVIDUAL CREATES AN ACCOUNT, AN APPLICATION**
18 **STORE PROVIDER SHALL:**

19 **(1) REQUEST AGE CATEGORY INFORMATION FROM THE INDIVIDUAL;**
20 **AND**

21 **(2) VERIFY THE INDIVIDUAL’S AGE CATEGORY USING:**

22 **(I) COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE METHODS THAT ARE**
23 **REASONABLY DESIGNED TO ENSURE ACCURACY; OR**

24 **(II) AN AGE VERIFICATION METHOD OR PROCESS THAT**
25 **COMPLIES WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE DIVISION UNDER § 14-5104 OF**
26 **THIS SUBTITLE.**

1 **(B) FOR AN ACCOUNT IN EXISTENCE BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2026, AN**
2 **APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER SHALL, ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2027:**

3 **(1) REQUEST AGE CATEGORY INFORMATION FROM THE INDIVIDUAL;**
4 **AND**

5 **(2) VERIFY THE AGE CATEGORY OF THE INDIVIDUAL USING:**

6 **(I) COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE METHODS THAT ARE**
7 **REASONABLY DESIGNED TO ENSURE ACCURACY; OR**

8 **(II) AN AGE VERIFICATION METHOD OR PROCESS THAT**
9 **COMPLIES WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE DIVISION UNDER § 14-5104 OF**
10 **THIS SUBTITLE.**

11 **(C) IF THE APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER DETERMINES THE INDIVIDUAL**
12 **IS A MINOR, THE PROVIDER SHALL:**

13 **(1) REQUIRE THE ACCOUNT TO BE AFFILIATED WITH A PARENT**
14 **ACCOUNT;**

15 **(2) OBTAIN VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT FROM THE HOLDER OF**
16 **THE AFFILIATED PARENT ACCOUNT EACH TIME BEFORE ALLOWING THE MINOR TO:**

17 **(I) DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION;**

18 **(II) PURCHASE AN APPLICATION; OR**

19 **(III) MAKE AN IN-APPLICATION PURCHASE;**

20 **(3) AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FROM A**
21 **DEVELOPER:**

22 **(I) NOTIFY THE ACCOUNT HOLDER OF THE SIGNIFICANT**
23 **CHANGE; AND**

24 **(II) FOR A MINOR ACCOUNT:**

25 1. **NOTIFY THE PARENT ACCOUNT HOLDER; AND**

26 2. **OBTAIN RENEWED VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT**
27 **BEFORE PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGED VERSION;**

1 **(4) PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO A DEVELOPER, IN**
2 **RESPONSE TO A REQUEST AUTHORIZED UNDER § 14-5103 OF THIS SUBTITLE:**

3 **(I) AGE CATEGORY DATA FOR AN ACCOUNT HOLDER; AND**

4 **(II) THE STATUS OF VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT FOR A**
5 **MINOR;**

6 **(5) PROVIDE A METHOD FOR A PARENT ACCOUNT HOLDER TO**
7 **WITHDRAW CONSENT AND NOTIFY A DEVELOPER WHEN THE PARENT REVOKES**
8 **VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT; AND**

9 **(6) PROTECT AGE CATEGORY DATA AND ANY ASSOCIATED**
10 **VERIFICATION DATA BY:**

11 **(I) LIMITING COLLECTION AND PROCESSING TO DATA**
12 **NECESSARY FOR:**

13 **1. VERIFYING AN ACCOUNT HOLDER'S AGE CATEGORY;**

14 **2. OBTAINING VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT; OR**

15 **3. MAINTAINING COMPLIANCE RECORDS; AND**

16 **(II) TRANSMITTING AGE CATEGORY DATA USING**
17 **INDUSTRY-STANDARD ENCRYPTION PROTOCOLS THAT ENSURE DATA INTEGRITY**
18 **AND DATA CONFIDENTIALITY; AND**

19 **(III) FOR A PRE-INSTALLED APPLICATION, IN RESPONSE TO A**
20 **REQUEST FROM A DEVELOPER;**

21 **1. PROVIDING AVAILABLE AGE CATEGORY**
22 **INFORMATION; AND**

23 **2. TAKING REASONABLE MEASURES TO FACILITATE**
24 **VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT FOR USE OF THE APPLICATION.**

25 **(D) AN APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER MAY NOT:**

26 **(1) ENFORCE A CONTRACT OR TERMS OF SERVICE AGAINST A MINOR**
27 **UNLESS THE APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER HAS OBTAINED VERIFIABLE PARENTAL**
28 **CONSENT;**

1 **(2) KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENT THE INFORMATION IN THE**
2 **PARENTAL CONSENT DISCLOSURE; OR**

3 **(3) SHARE AGE CATEGORY DATA AND ANY ASSOCIATED DATA EXCEPT**
4 **AS REQUIRED BY THIS SUBTITLE OR OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY LAW.**

5 **14-5103.**

6 **(A) A DEVELOPER SHALL:**

7 **(1) VERIFY THROUGH THE APPLICATION STORE'S DATA-SHARING**
8 **METHODS:**

9 **(I) THE AGE CATEGORY DATA OF ACCOUNT HOLDERS; AND**

10 **(II) FOR A MINOR'S ACCOUNT, WHETHER VERIFIABLE**
11 **PARENTAL CONSENT HAS BEEN OBTAINED;**

12 **(2) NOTIFY APPLICATION STORE PROVIDERS OF A SIGNIFICANT**
13 **CHANGE TO AN APPLICATION;**

14 **(3) USE AGE CATEGORY DATA RECEIVED THROUGH THE**
15 **APPLICATION STORE'S DATA-SHARING METHODS TO:**

16 **(I) ENFORCE ANY DEVELOPER-CREATED AGE-RELATED**
17 **RESTRICTIONS, SAFETY-RELATED FEATURES, OR DEFAULTS; AND**

18 **(II) ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS AND**
19 **REGULATIONS; AND**

20 **(4) REQUEST AGE CATEGORY DATA OR VERIFIABLE PARENTAL**
21 **CONSENT:**

22 **(I) AT THE TIME AN ACCOUNT HOLDER:**

23 **1. DOWNLOADS AN APPLICATION;**

24 **2. PURCHASES AN APPLICATION; OR**

25 **3. LAUNCHES A PRE-INSTALLED APPLICATION FOR THE**
26 **FIRST TIME;**

1 (II) WHEN IMPLEMENTING A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO THE
2 APPLICATION; OR

3 (III) TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE LAW.

4 (B) A DEVELOPER MAY REQUEST AGE CATEGORY DATA:

5 (1) NOT MORE THAN ONCE DURING EACH 12-MONTH PERIOD TO
6 VERIFY:

7 (I) THE ACCURACY OF AGE CATEGORY DATA ASSOCIATED WITH
8 AN ACCOUNT HOLDER; OR

9 (II) CONTINUED ACCOUNT USE WITHIN THE AGE CATEGORY;

10 (2) WHEN THERE IS REASONABLE SUSPICION OF:

11 (I) ACCOUNT TRANSFER; OR

12 (II) MISUSE OUTSIDE THE AGE CATEGORY; OR

13 (3) AT THE TIME AN ACCOUNT HOLDER CREATES A NEW ACCOUNT
14 WITH THE DEVELOPER.

15 (C) WHEN IMPLEMENTING ANY DEVELOPER-CREATED AGE-RELATED
16 RESTRICTIONS, SAFETY-RELATED FEATURES, OR DEFAULTS, A DEVELOPER SHALL
17 USE THE LOWEST AGE CATEGORY INDICATED BY:

18 (1) AGE CATEGORY DATA RECEIVED THROUGH THE APPLICATION
19 STORE'S DATA-SHARING METHODS; OR

20 (2) AGE DATA INDEPENDENTLY COLLECTED BY THE DEVELOPER.

21 (D) A DEVELOPER MAY NOT:

22 (1) ENFORCE A CONTRACT OR TERMS OF SERVICE AGAINST A MINOR
23 UNLESS THE DEVELOPER HAS VERIFIED THROUGH AN APPLICATION STORE'S
24 DATA-SHARING METHODS THAT VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT HAS BEEN
25 OBTAINED;

26 (2) KNOWINGLY MISREPRESENT ANY INFORMATION IN THE
27 PARENTAL CONSENT DISCLOSURE; OR

1 **(3) SHARE AGE CATEGORY DATA WITH ANY PERSON.**

2 **14-5104.**

3 **THE DIVISION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING PROCESSES AND**
4 **MEANS BY WHICH AN APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER MAY VERIFY AN ACCOUNT**
5 **HOLDER'S AGE CATEGORY IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 14-5102(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

6 **14-5105.**

7 **(A) A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IS:**

8 **(1) AN UNFAIR, ABUSIVE, OR DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE WITHIN**
9 **THE MEANING OF TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND**

10 **(2) SUBJECT TO THE ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY PROVISIONS**
11 **CONTAINED IN TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE, EXCEPT FOR § 13-411 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

12 **(B) IN ADDITION TO REMEDIES PROVIDED UNDER TITLE 13 OF THIS**
13 **ARTICLE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY BRING AN ACTION AGAINST AN**
14 **APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER OR A DEVELOPER TO RECOVER A CIVIL PENALTY**
15 **NOT TO EXCEED \$7,500 FOR EACH VIOLATION.**

16 **(C) IF A MINOR WAS HARMED BY A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE**
17 **COURT SHALL AWARD A PREVAILING PLAINTIFF:**

18 **(1) REMEDIES PROVIDED UNDER TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE;**

19 **(2) THE GREATER OF ACTUAL DAMAGES OR \$1,000 FOR EACH**
20 **VIOLATION; AND**

21 **(3) PUNITIVE DAMAGES IF THE VIOLATION WAS EGREGIOUS.**

22 **14-5106.**

23 **(A) A DEVELOPER IS NOT LIABLE FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IF**
24 **THE DEVELOPER DEMONSTRATES THAT THE DEVELOPER:**

25 **(1) RELIED IN GOOD FAITH ON APPLICABLE AGE CATEGORY DATA**
26 **RECEIVED THROUGH AN APPLICATION STORE'S DATA-SHARING METHODS;**

1 **(2) RELIED IN GOOD FAITH ON NOTIFICATION FROM AN APPLICATION**
2 **STORE PROVIDER THAT VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT WAS OBTAINED IF THE**
3 **ACCOUNT HOLDER WAS A MINOR; AND**

4 **(3) COMPLIED WITH THE REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN § 14-5103**
5 **OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

6 **(B) A DEVELOPER IS NOT LIABLE FOR A VIOLATION IN DETERMINING AN**
7 **APPLICATION'S AGE RATING AND CONTENT DESCRIPTION FOR PURPOSES OF §**
8 **14-5103(D)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE IF THE DEVELOPER:**

9 **(1) USES WIDELY ADOPTED INDUSTRY STANDARDS TO DETERMINE**
10 **THE APPLICATION'S AGE CATEGORY AND CONTENT DESCRIPTION; AND**

11 **(2) APPLIES THOSE STANDARDS CONSISTENTLY AND IN GOOD FAITH.**

12 **(C) THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTIONS (A) AND (B) OF THIS SECTION:**

13 **(1) APPLY ONLY TO ACTIONS BROUGHT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

14 **(2) DO NOT LIMIT THE LIABILITY OF A DEVELOPER OR AN**
15 **APPLICATION STORE UNDER ANY OTHER APPLICABLE LAW.**

16 **(D) NOTHING IN THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE CONSTRUED AS LIMITING OR**
17 **NEGATING ANY OTHER AVAILABLE REMEDIES OR RIGHTS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE**
18 **LAWS OF THE STATE OR THE UNITED STATES.**

19 **14-5107.**

20 **THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO:**

21 **(1) PREVENT AN APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER OR A DEVELOPER**
22 **FROM TAKING REASONABLE MEASURES TO:**

23 **(I) BLOCK, DETECT, OR PREVENT DISTRIBUTION TO MINORS**
24 **OF:**

25 1. **UNLAWFUL MATERIAL;**

26 2. **OBSCENE MATERIAL; OR**

27 3. **OTHER HARMFUL MATERIAL;**

1 (II) BLOCK OR FILTER SPAM;

2 (III) PREVENT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY; OR

3 (IV) PROTECT THE APPLICATION STORE OR APPLICATION
4 SECURITY;

5 (2) REQUIRE AN APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER TO DISCLOSE USER
6 INFORMATION TO A DEVELOPER BEYOND AGE CATEGORY DATA OR STATUS OF
7 VERIFIABLE PARENTAL CONSENT;

8 (3) ALLOW AN APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER OR A DEVELOPER TO
9 IMPLEMENT MEASURES REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IN A MANNER THAT IS
10 ARBITRARY, CAPRICIOUS, ANTICOMPETITIVE, OR UNLAWFUL;

11 (4) REQUIRE AN APPLICATION STORE PROVIDER OR DEVELOPER TO
12 BLOCK ACCESS TO AN APPLICATION THAT AN ACCOUNT HOLDER HAS DOWNLOADED
13 OR INSTALLED ONTO A MOBILE DEVICE, EXCEPT WHEN:

14 (I) A PARENT ACCOUNT HOLDER REVOKES VERIFIABLE
15 CONSENT FOR AN AFFILIATED MINOR ACCOUNT; OR

16 (II) THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO THE APPLICATION;

17 (5) REQUIRE A DEVELOPER TO COLLECT, RETAIN, RE-IDENTIFY, OR
18 LINK ANY INFORMATION BEYOND THAT WHICH IS:

19 (I) NECESSARY TO VERIFY AGE CATEGORY DATA AS REQUIRED
20 BY THIS SUBTITLE; AND

21 (II) COLLECTED, RETAINED, RE-IDENTIFIED, OR LINKED IN
22 THE DEVELOPER'S ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS; OR

23 (6) RELIEVE A DEVELOPER OF THE DEVELOPER'S OBLIGATION TO
24 CONDUCT AGE VERIFICATION AS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY LAW, EXCEPT THAT A
25 DEVELOPER MAY RELY ON AGE CATEGORY DATA OBTAINED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE
26 IF THE AGE CATEGORY DATA SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICABLE LAW.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, if any provision of this Act or
28 the application of any provision of this Act to any person or circumstance is held invalid for
29 any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other
30 provisions or any other application of this Act that can be given effect without the invalid
31 provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are declared
32 severable.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2026.