

23/24-EB-06 - HB0603/SB0571

**Title:** Consumer Protection – Online Products and Services – Data of Children (Maryland Kids Code)

**Sponsored by:** Delegates Solomon & Wilson; Senators Kramer & West

**Committee Assignment:** Economic Matters; Finance

**FOR** requiring certain entities that offers an online product likely to be accessed by children to complete an impact assessment under certain circumstances; prohibiting a business from offering a certain online product before completing an impact assessment; requiring businesses to document certain risks associated with certain online products; requiring certain privacy protections for certain online products; prohibiting certain data collection and sharing practices; etc.

**Proposed Position: SUPPORT**

**Resolution:** *23/24-EB-06 Co-authored by Mara Babb, Brenton Meade, and Daphne Wang, the 2023-24 MASC State Legislative Affairs Coordinators*

WHEREAS, 67% of Maryland high school students report spending three or more hours per day on social media where they can be exposed to content through targeted advertising which can propagate unsafe and unhealthy behaviors, and

WHEREAS, this bill would address and minimize the adverse impact that digital products and services can have on minors through data protection impact assessments, and

WHEREAS, this bill would provide the Attorney General’s office greater capacity to ensure the safety of minors by creating an explicit enforcement mechanism, and

WHEREAS, MASC supported and advocated for the principles of [HB901/SB844](#) during the 2023 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly, and

WHEREAS, MASC supports “Proactive measures to ensure student safety...” (MASC Platform, Plank IV; A) and this bill would provide extensive protection within a user interface specifically to minors, and

WHEREAS, MASC supports “Initiatives designed to promote positive mental health and wellbeing in youth” (MASC Platform, Plank V; H) and greater protection online is conducive to the maintenance of the mental health, physical health, social composition, body image, and digital safety of youth, be it hereby

RESOLVED that the Maryland Association of Student Councils supports HB0603/SB0571.