



February 11, 2026

The Honorable Jheanelle K. Wilkins
Chair, House Ways and Means Committee
130 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Wilkins and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

On behalf of CTIA®, the trade association for the wireless communications industry, we respectfully request support for an amendment to House Bill 468 to clarify that wireless service providers are not included in this bill's definition of "digital social media service providers".

The proposed amendment would ensure that companies that provide the networks that social media platforms use to deliver content are not inadvertently included in the tax. The bill as introduced could be interpreted as including wireless providers because the definition of digital social media service providers is very broad. Under the provisions of the bill, wireless consumers can share text, photos, and video with other wireless users if they "become aware of" those users. For example, if a wireless subscriber sent a text informing another wireless user that they have a new phone number, that contact could trigger tax. While we do not think this is the intent of the bill sponsors, this amendment would make it clear that wireless providers are not digital social media service providers.

Without this amendment, it is possible that wireless users that do not use social media services could end up paying this tax on their monthly bills.

Please support this amendment to protect wireless consumers, who already pay state sales taxes, state and local 911 fees, a state 988 tax, and other city and county telecommunications taxes, are not inadvertently hit with another new tax.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Annissa Reed

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Director, State and Local Affairs



Seeking the following amendment

7.7-101

(D) (1) "DIGITAL SOCIAL MEDIA SERVICE" MEANS A SERVICE PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC THROUGH AN INTERNET WEBSITE OR A MOBILE APPLICATION THAT:

(I) INCLUDES FEATURES THAT ALLOW A USER TO SHARE IMAGES, TEXT, OR VIDEO THROUGH THE INTERNET **to socially connect** WITH OTHER USERS OF THE SERVICE WHOM THE USER HAS MET, IDENTIFIED, OR BECOME AWARE OF THROUGH THE USE OF THE SERVICE; AND

(II) HAS MORE THAN 1,000,000 MONTHLY ACTIVE USERS IN THE UNITED STATES OR GENERATES MORE THAN \$500,000,000 IN ANNUAL GROSS REVENUE, ADJUSTED ANNUALLY FOR INFLATION.

(2) "DIGITAL SOCIAL MEDIA SERVICE" DOES NOT INCLUDE A SERVICE THAT IS PRIMARILY USED FOR:

(I) THE SALE OR PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES;

(II) THE SALE OF COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS; OR

(III) IF THE SERVICE DOES NOT INCLUDE THE ABILITY FOR CONTENT TO BE SENT BY A USER DIRECTLY TO ANOTHER USER, THE PROVISION OF NEWS OR INFORMATION.

7.7-102

(c) This tax imposed by this subtitle shall not apply to:

(1) a provider of a broadband Internet access service as defined in 47 CFR § 8.1;

(2) a provider of an information service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 153;

(3) a provider of a telecommunications service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 153; or

(4) an affiliate or subsidiary of (1), (2), or (3) above.