To improve public awareness in the United States regarding safe use of the Internet through the establishment of an Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness within the Federal Trade Commission.

A BILL

To improve public awareness in the United States regarding safe use of the Internet through the establishment of an Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness within the Federal Trade Commission.
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Safeguarding America’s Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007” or the “SAFER NET Act”.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE.

The Federal Trade Commission shall establish an Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness, which shall have responsibility for programs and activities relating to increasing public awareness and providing education regarding Internet safety.

SEC. 3. DIRECTOR.

The Office shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the Commission.

SEC. 4. INTERNET SAFETY.

For purposes of this Act, the issue of Internet safety includes issues regarding use of the Internet in a manner that promotes safe online activity, including safe transactions involved in online commerce, and protects against threats to financial information and privacy, threats from cyber-crime, and threats to juveniles, including cyber-predators and material that is inappropriate for minors.

SEC. 5. DUTIES.

(a) Activities.—The Commission, acting through the Office, shall carry out a nationwide program to increase public awareness and education regarding Internet
safety, for families, businesses, organizations, and other
users, that utilizes existing resources and efforts of the
Federal Government, State and local governments, non-
profit organizations, private technology and financial com-
panies, Internet service providers, World Wide Web-based
resources, and other appropriate entities, that includes—
(1) evaluating Internet safety efforts and activi-
ties provided at various levels of government and by
other entities;
(2) improving efficiency of Internet safety ef-
forts and activities, by eliminating redundancy of ef-
forts at various levels of government and other enti-
ties, identifying, promoting, and expanding effective
such efforts and activities and coordinating among
such efforts and activities;
(3) identifying, promoting, and encouraging
best practices for Internet safety;
(4) establishing and carrying out a national
outreach and education campaign regarding Internet
safety utilizing various media and Internet-based re-
sources;
(5) serving as the primary contact in the Fed-
eral Government, and as a national clearinghouse,
for information and public awareness efforts regard-
ing Internet safety;
(6) facilitating access to, and the exchange of, information regarding Internet safety to promote up-to-date knowledge regarding current issues;

(7) providing expert advice and consultation to the Commission regarding Internet safety issues; and

(8) providing assistance, including technical assistance and financial assistance under subsection (e), to States, units of local government, schools, police departments, non-profit organizations, and such other entities as the Office considers appropriate to promote Internet safety education and public awareness.

(b) Grants and Contracts.—

(1) Authority.—In carrying out subsection (b), the Commission, acting through the Office, may make grants, to the extent amounts are provided in advance in appropriation Acts for such grants, to, and enter into cooperative agreements, contracts, and interagency agreements with States, units of local government, schools, police departments, non-profit organizations, and such other public and private agencies, entities, and organizations as the Office considers appropriate.
(2) EVALUATION.—The Commission, acting through the Office, shall provide for evaluations of projects and activities carried out with financial assistance provided under paragraph (1) and for the dissemination of information developed as a result of such projects.

SEC. 6. ANNUAL REPORTS.

The Commission, acting through the Office, shall submit a report not later than March 31 of each year that—

(1) describes the activities of the Office during the preceding calendar year;

(2) contains any evaluations performed pursuant to subsection (e)(2) for any projects and activities carried out during the preceding calendar with assistance under subsection (e)(1);

(3) describes and analyzes the current state, as of the preparation of such report, of Internet safety, existing and emerging threats to Internet safety, and costs to the economy of the United States resulting from preventing, responding to, eliminating, and otherwise dealing with threats to Internet safety.

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act, the following definitions shall apply:
(1) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) **INTERNET.**—The term “Internet” means collectively the myriad of computer and telecommunications facilities, including equipment and operating software, which comprise the interconnected world-wide network of networks that employ the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, or any predecessor or successor protocols to such protocol, to communicate information of all kinds by wire or radio.

(3) **OFFICE.**—The term “Office” means the Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness of the Federal Trade Commission, established by section 2.