

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7045

To repeal section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2026

Mr. PATRONIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To repeal section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Promoting Responsible
5 Online Technology and Ensuring Consumer Trust Act” or
6 the “PROTECT Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF SECTION 230.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 230 of the Communica-
9 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230) is repealed.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.—The Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) is amended—

(A) in section 223—

(i) in subsection (h)(1)—

(I) by striking subparagraph (D);

and

(II) by redesignating subparagraphs (E) and (F) as subparagraphs

(D) and (E), respectively; and

(ii) in subsection (i), by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) The term ‘interactive computer service’

means any information service, system, or access

software provider that provides or enables computer

access by multiple users to a computer server, in-

cluding specifically a service or system that provides

access to the internet and such systems operated or

services offered by libraries or educational institu-

tions.”; and

(B) in section 231(b)(4), by striking “or

section 230”.

(2) TRADEMARK ACT OF 1946.—Section 45 of

the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the registra-

tion and protection of trademarks used in commerce,

1 to carry out the provisions of certain international
2 conventions, and for other purposes”, approved July
3 5, 1946 (commonly known as the “Trademark Act
4 of 1946”) (15 U.S.C. 1127), is amended, in the un-
5 designated provision relating to the term “Internet”,
6 by striking “has the meaning given that term in sec-
7 tion 230(f)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934
8 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)(1))” and inserting “means the
9 international computer network of both Federal and
10 non-Federal interoperable packet switched data net-
11 works”.

12 (3) TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section
13 1401 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by
14 striking subsection (g).

15 (4) TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—Part I of
16 title 18, United States Code, is amended—

17 (A) in section 1462, by striking “(as de-
18 fined in section 230(e)(2) of the Communica-
19 tions Act of 1934)” each place it appears and
20 inserting “(as defined in section 223(i) of the
21 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
22 223(i)))”;

23 (B) in section 1465, by striking “(as de-
24 fined in section 230(e)(2) of the Communica-
25 tions Act of 1934)” and inserting “(as defined

1 in section 223(i) of the Communications Act of
2 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223(i))”;

3 (C) in section 2257(h)(2)(B)(v), by strik-
4 ing “, except that deletion of a particular com-
5 munication or material made by another person
6 in a manner consistent with section 230(c) of
7 the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
8 230(c)) shall not constitute such selection or al-
9 teration of the content of the communication”;
10 and

11 (D) in section 2421A—

12 (i) in subsection (a), by striking “(as
13 such term is defined in defined in section
14 230(f) the Communications Act of 1934
15 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)))” and inserting “(as
16 such term is defined in section 223(i) of
17 the Communications Act of 1934 (47
18 U.S.C. 223(i)))”; and

19 (ii) in subsection (b), by striking “(as
20 such term is defined in defined in section
21 230(f) the Communications Act of 1934
22 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)))” and inserting “(as
23 such term is defined in section 223(i) of
24 the Communications Act of 1934 (47
25 U.S.C. 223(i)))”.

1 (5) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.—Section
2 401(h)(3)(A)(iii)(II) of the Controlled Substances
3 Act (21 U.S.C. 841(h)(3)(A)(iii)(II)) is amended by
4 striking “, except that deletion of a particular com-
5 munication or material made by another person in
6 a manner consistent with section 230(c) of the Com-
7 munications Act of 1934 shall not constitute such
8 selection or alteration of the content of the commu-
9 nication”.

10 (6) WEBB-KENYON ACT.—Section 3(b)(1) of
11 the Act entitled “An Act divesting intoxicating liq-
12 uors of their interstate character in certain cases”,
13 approved March 1, 1913 (commonly known as the
14 “Webb-Kenyon Act”) (27 U.S.C. 122b(b)(1)), is
15 amended by striking “(as defined in section 230(f)
16 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
17 230(f))” and inserting “(as defined in section 223(i)
18 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
19 223(i)))”.

20 (7) TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section
21 4102 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

22 (A) by striking subsection (c); and

23 (B) in subsection (e)—

1 (i) by striking “construed to” and all
2 that follows through “affect” and inserting
3 “construed to affect”; and

4 (ii) by striking “defamation; or” and
5 all that follows and inserting “defama-
6 tion.”.

7 (8) DANIEL ANDERL JUDICIAL SECURITY AND
8 PRIVACY ACT OF 2022.—Section 5933(7) of the Dan-
9 iel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2022
10 (Public Law 117–263) is amended by striking “sec-
11 tion 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
12 U.S.C. 230)” and inserting “section 223(i) of the
13 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223(i))”.

14 (9) TITLE 31, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section
15 5362(6) of title 31, United States Code, is amended
16 by striking “section 230(f) of the Communications
17 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(f))” and inserting “sec-
18 tion 223(i) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
19 U.S.C. 223(i))”.

20 (10) NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND IN-
21 FORMATION ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATION ACT.—
22 Section 157 of the National Telecommunications
23 and Information Administration Organization Act
24 (47 U.S.C. 941) is amended—

25 (A) by striking subsection (e); and

1 (B) by redesignating subsections (f)
2 through (j) as subsections (e) through (i), re-
3 spectively.

4 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
5 this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment
6 of this Act.

