

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9692

To require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to support the development of a voluntary technical standard for setting a screentime limit across certain devices, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2026

Mr. WHITESIDES (for himself, Mr. HARRIGAN, Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY, and Mr. HARIDOPOLOS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to support the development of a voluntary technical standard for setting a screentime limit across certain devices, 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 “Tracking Online Time
5 And Limits Screen Time Act” or the “TOTAL Screen
6 Time Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. VOLUNTARY TECHNICAL STANDARD FOR SETTING**
2 **A SCREENTIME LIMIT ACROSS CERTAIN DE-**
3 **VICES.**

4 (a) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the
6 National Institute of Standards and Technology (in this
7 section referred to as the “Director”) shall solicit public
8 comment and seek to convene the stakeholders specified
9 in subsection (b) to support the development of a vol-
10 untary technical standard that satisfies the following re-
11 quirements:

12 (1) Is for setting a screentime limit across cov-
13 ered devices.

14 (2) Includes an authentication and authoriza-
15 tion model that is for minors and the parents or
16 guardians of such minors and does not require a cer-
17 tain identity scheme.

18 (3) With respect to such limit, minimizes to the
19 extent practicable the exchange of data across such
20 devices.

21 (4) Does not facilitate a centralized database of
22 information relating to the activity of such minors
23 on such devices.

24 (5) Does not compromise the cybersecurity of
25 such a device.

1 (b) STAKEHOLDERS SPECIFIED.—The stakeholders
2 specified in this subsection are the following entities:

3 (1) The Assistant Secretary for Communica-
4 tions and Information.

5 (2) The Chair of the Federal Trade Commis-
6 sion.

7 (3) The Information Security and Privacy Advi-
8 sory Board.

9 (4) The Surgeon General.

10 (5) Developers of covered devices.

11 (6) Organizations that are composed of medical
12 professionals who treat minors.

13 (7) Organizations that advocate for any of the
14 following:

15 (A) The safety of minors.

16 (B) Privacy.

17 (8) International standards organizations.

18 (9) Any other entity the Director determines
19 appropriate.

20 (c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
21 of the enactment of this Act and biennially thereafter until
22 January 1, 2032, the Director shall submit to the Com-
23 mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House
24 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
25 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and publish on

1 a publicly available website of the Institute a report re-
2 garding the development of the technical standard referred
3 to in subsection (a) that includes information relating to
4 the following for the annual or biennial period covered by
5 such report:

6 (1) The extent to which such technical standard
7 has been developed.

8 (2) The extent to which such technical standard
9 has been adopted.

10 (3) Recommendations, if any, of the Director
11 with respect to supporting such development and
12 such adoption.

13 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) COVERED DEVICE.—The term “covered de-
15 vice” means a device that satisfies the following re-
16 quirements:

17 (A) Is any of the following devices:

18 (i) A phone.

19 (ii) A tablet.

20 (iii) A computer.

21 (iv) A game console.

22 (v) A television.

23 (vi) Any other device the Director de-
24 termines appropriate.

25 (B) Is capable of the following:

1 (i) Playing screen media or other
2 audiovisual content.

3 (ii) Enforcing a screentime limit.

4 (2) MINOR.—The term “minor” means an indi-
5 vidual who has not attained 18 years of age.

6 (3) SCREENTIME.—The term “screentime”
7 means time during which screen media or other
8 audiovisual content is played on a covered device, re-
9 gardless of whether such media or content, as the
10 case may be, is so played in the foreground or the
11 background.

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