

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1180

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require Internet access providers to provide screening software to permit parents to control Internet access by their children.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 1997

Mr. McDADE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require Internet access providers to provide screening software to permit parents to control Internet access by their children.

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 “Family-Friendly
5 Internet Access Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTERNET ACCESS PROVIDERS REQUIRED TO MAKE**
2 **SCREENING SOFTWARE AVAILABLE.**

3 (a) LIMITATION ON RATE REGULATION.—Section
4 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230)
5 is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as
7 subsections (e) and (f), respectively;

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the follow-
9 ing new subsection:

10 “(d) OBLIGATIONS OF INTERNET ACCESS PROVID-
11 ERS.—An Internet access provider shall, at the time of
12 entering an agreement with a customer for the provision
13 of Internet access services, offer such customer screening
14 software that is designed to permit the customer to limit
15 access to material that is unsuitable for children. Such
16 software shall be provided either at no charge or for a
17 fee that does not exceed the cost of such software to such
18 provider.”; and

19 (3) by adding at the end of subsection (f) (as
20 redesignated by paragraph (1) of this subsection)
21 the following new paragraphs:

22 “(5) INTERNET ACCESS PROVIDER.—The term
23 ‘Internet access provider’ means a person engaged in
24 the business of providing a computer and commu-
25 nications facility through which a customer may ob-
26 tain access to the Internet, but does not include a

1 common carrier to the extent that it provides only
2 transmission and routing services.

3 “(6) INTERNET ACCESS SERVICES.—The term
4 ‘Internet access services’ means the provision of
5 computer and communications services through
6 which a customer using a computer and a modem or
7 other communications device may obtain access to
8 the Internet, but does not include transmission and
9 routing services provided by a common carrier.”.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 223(h)(2)
11 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223(h)(2))
12 is amended by striking “230(e)(2)” and inserting
13 “230(f)(2)”.

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