

recent decisions, and so they have decided to change the rules of the game. That is it.

I have disagreed with more than one Supreme Court decision in my time—I have disagreed with Supreme Court Justices nominated by Presidents of my own party—but I have never thought that my not agreeing with a Supreme Court decision meant that the Court itself was illegitimate or that my party should attempt to change the law to make over the Supreme Court in our image.

Well, not so for Democrats. The Supreme Court releases a handful of decisions the Democrats don't like, and they decide that the Court is illegitimate and that it is time to remake the Court to their liking. More than one Democrat has already introduced legislation in Congress to do just that.

And now, with the President's announcement yesterday, it has become clear that those plans have accelerated and that if Democrats take the White House and Congress in November, we can expect them to lose no time in destroying the Court as we know it.

While the President's proposals are troubling enough, with a measure to circumvent the Constitution's lifetime appointments for Justices and replace the Supreme Court's own code of conduct with a code of conduct mandated by Democrat Members of Congress, who knows—who knows if Democrats will stop there? After all, while their proposal would conveniently start by retiring Republican appointees, Democrats would only be able to retire one Justice every 2 years. What is to say that would be fast enough for Democrats?

We all know that Court-packing, which is expanding the Supreme Court until you get a sufficient number of Justices to endorse your policies, has gained significant traction in Democrat circles. Indeed, President Biden's term limits proposal is a version of Court-packing by another name, and it would not surprise me at all if Democrats didn't stop there, because—make no mistake—this is a slippery slope. Once you start interfering, there is no going back.

If the Democrats implement this plan, it is easy to see a future where each subsequent administration acts to "return balance" to the Supreme Court, with the result that the Supreme Court changes wildly from administration to administration, losing all independence and credibility and any resemblance to the Supreme Court as established by the Constitution.

I would like to remind my Democrat colleagues of what happened with the filibuster for judicial nominees here in the Senate. Back in 2013, Democrats, frustrated that they could not rubberstamp all of President Obama's appointees, abolished the filibuster for lower court nominees. It turned out to be a quick step from that to abolishing the filibuster for Supreme Court nominees a few years later, and I am pretty

sure that I have heard more than one of my Democrat colleagues express regret over that 2013 decision. But it seems that Democrats are resolved not to learn from history and are perfectly willing to sacrifice the long-term stability of the Supreme Court for their own short-term political gain.

Even worse than any specific element of President Biden's proposals yesterday is the incredibly dangerous precedent they would set for meddling in what is supposed to be a separate, independent branch of our government. If Democrats were really, really concerned about impartiality and the rule of law and promoting faith in the Supreme Court, the last thing they would be doing is interfering with the Court's makeup.

If there are any Democrats left in Congress who are willing to put the long-term health of our institutions over some temporary political gain, I urge them—I urge them—to join Republicans in opposing this power grab.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### KIDS ONLINE SAFETY ACT

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I come here today to talk briefly on the Kids Online Safety Act before the milestone, historic vote that we will take at about noon today.

For years—in fact, for decades—Congress has discussed and debated the need for reform and safeguards on the internet. We have held dozens of hearings, brought Mark Zuckerberg and every other Big Tech CEO to our committees, and there has been broad agreement: Something needs to be done. We need rules, safeguards. Despite countless polls showing public bipartisan demand for legislation, nothing has happened, nothing.

Senator BLACKBURN and I began working on our subcommittee when we held legislative investigations on kids' online safety. Throughout that process, we began to meet with parents who have lost their children because of social media's harms from bullying, fentanyl, sex exploitation, and other horrific harms.

As a parent of four children and Senator BLACKBURN also as a parent, we felt deeply the grief, but we admired the grit and the grace of those parents who came to us and demanded action.

I am haunted by one of the moms who said to us early on, I think speaking on behalf of so many of them and us:

When will you stop them from killing people? When will you stop them from killing our children?

Voting today, the U.S. Senate is finally taking action on Big Tech.

At its core, the Kids Online Safety Act is a simple, straightforward measure. It gives young people and parents the tools and safeguards to take back control over their online lives. It gives them that measure of power. It empowers them. It enables them to make choices about what they want to see and hear on the internet rather than the algorithms that drive content—often repetitive, addictive content—about bullying and eating disorders that contributes to the destruction of their lives.

There are three key principles in this legislation: accountability, safeguards, and transparency.

First, social media platforms will be bound by a duty of care, legally required to exercise reasonable care to prevent their products from causing self-harm, suicide, eating disorders, substance abuse, and other harmful impacts.

The duty of care is flexible because we wanted to keep up with the changes in technology and to be able to be fairly applied to companies with widely different sizes, business models, and products.

We recognize the obligations on Instagram or YouTube should be different from those for a startup and that social media platforms are different from video games.

Second, social media platforms will have to provide young people safeguards and set them to the strongest settings by default.

Finally, social media companies will no longer be able to hide harm. This legislation will require yearly independent audits and access to data. Researchers, Congress, and parents all will be able to hold those companies truly accountable.

Importantly, this bill stops Big Tech from avoiding their legal obligations to protect children. We do that through the knowledge standard in the bill.

The bill ensures that if Meta or Google know or should know that a user is a teen or a child, they need to provide them the safeguards under this legislation. Where the platforms have information indicating that they are kids, they need to act and protect them—no more sticking their heads in the sand, no more excuses, no more platitudes that disguise inaction and irresponsibility.

In short, we want kids to have more of the good that comes from the internet without the bad. There are a lot of positives. Kids experience it, but there is some really scary, toxic stuff that kids also experience. And they have told us again and again and again they want to make choices. They don't want the algorithms to do it for them. That is why we have empowered them to make those choices. We are not blocking or censoring content for them. We are simply creating an environment that is safe by design.

At its core, this bill is a product design bill. All my career, I have tried to protect consumers against defective

products that are designed to make more money and more profits at the risk or expense of injury to people. Whether it is cigarettes that are designed to kill the customer through nicotine addiction or car manufacturers that have been required to make their products safer by design through seatbelts and airbags or toys with small parts that endanger children who can choke on those parts unless there is sufficient warning to parents or caregivers, this society steps forward to make products safer, putting people, and particularly children, over products. That is what we are requiring social media to do.

We can no longer rely on the Big Tech companies to say to us: Trust us. They have betrayed that trust, and Congress has an obligation to act.

Over the past 3 years, we have worked exhaustively to improve this bill. We have sought feedback. We have made changes. We have revised and crafted new provisions. We have robustly debated the issues with anyone and everyone who had concerns.

I am immensely grateful to Senator BLACKBURN, who has been incomparably important as a partner, as a cowriter and drafter of this legislation, as an advocate because we share this common goal. Whatever our differences on other issues, this goal has been paramount for both of us over these past 3-plus years.

I want to also thank Senators SCHUMER and McCONNELL for scheduling this vote and Chair CANTWELL and Ranking Member CRUZ for their leadership and support for this bill in the Commerce Committee. The Kids Online Safety Act now has 72 cosponsors—nearly three-quarters of the membership of this Chamber. That is unheard of for an important, substantive piece of legislation that takes on the most powerful companies in the world.

Looking ahead, I am confident that we can build on this momentum—it is powerful momentum, but we need to build on it—and we can swiftly pass the Kids Online Safety Act in the House and enact it into law this fall as kids come back to school. Legislators will be returning from their home districts having heard from those parents and children, just as we have heard here, about the dangers and destruction coming from the internet. Senator BLACKBURN and I have spoken with the House leadership several times, and I believe we have strong support and a clear path forward.

Through this long process, our leaders—indeed, our loadstar—has been those parents and young people. They are in the Gallery today for the vote, and across the country, they are watching. Our Nation is watching because the parents of this Nation—not just the advocates and activists who came here to meet with Senators before now and, soon, Congresspeople, but all of the parents of this Nation who have a stake in the safety of our children—are demanding this change. They

are demanding the Kids Online Safety Act because they know firsthand the heartbreak and loss that social media can cause. We can't bring back the lives of their loved ones, but we can save others.

These parents are heroes: spending countless hours living through the pain, telling and retelling their stories, bringing tears to our eyes, as the majority leader, Senator SCHUMER, has said so eloquently. He has felt that pain through them, through their eyes and through their hearts, and I particularly want to thank Senator SCHUMER for keeping his word and giving this bill a vote, keeping not only his word but keeping faith with those parents. Congress owes them, and I am honored to fight alongside them.

Today the Senate will show that it understands we are in the midst of a mental health crisis in this country, particularly for our young people, that is aggravated and exacerbated by Big Tech. And the reason is, very simply, a business model that, in effect, relies on repetitive addictive features driving toxic content at kids.

They want back control over their online lives. Parents are asking for tools and safeguards that give them a measure of control. Clearly, the need is so deeply and widely felt in this country, and the Senate today shows that it values the lives of young people over the political influence and the profits of Big Tech.

The armies of lawyers and lobbyists that it has been able to muster, the false pretenses of “Sure, we want regulation but not that regulation,” will finally be defeated. It is a historic day. It is time to vote.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, while he is still here on the floor, for his diligence and his work and his partnership as we have worked on the Kids Online Safety Act. Indeed, he has put many hours, as his team has also put many hours, into this.

As we get ready to move forward with passage, I think we have to remember that it was 1998 the last time this body took up and passed a bill that became law that protected children in the virtual space. And a lot has changed since then. We have seen the emergence of social media. We have seen 100 million Americans born during that period of time.

So thinking about these platforms and that emergence, when you think about Facebook and Instagram and Snapchat and TikTok and online video games, those interactive games that are pulling kids into those, you think about how social media has changed the lives and the exposure of children today. They have grown up in this.

And, as Senator BLUMENTHAL said, Mr. President, it is so important to note that there are laws that protect children from buying alcohol, buying

tobacco, buying pornography, being taken to a strip show. We, as a society, have decided kids can't drive until they are 16 years old and they can't vote until they are 18 years old. But when you look at the social media platforms, there are no guardrails, and children are constantly exposed—constantly exposed—to content that encourages self-harm.

That is why we have started to see, over the last decade, such a rise in cyber bullying. I had one mom tell me her child was bullied to death—cyber-bullied nonstop. I had a principal tell me—he said: You know, MARSHA, it is interesting. Previously, in previous decades, children could go home and get away from the schoolyard bully. Now, that takes place over that phone, and it never stops.

Indeed, many of the behavioral issues at school are related to what is happening online. And we have seen a rise in mental health disorders. We have seen an increase in eating disorders, online sexual abuse, human trafficking, drug overdoses in teens, and of course, suicides—online challenges where a child loses their life. And we have seen how, the way Big Tech approaches this, our kids are basically defenseless.

That is why the Kids Online Safety Act has moved forward, as Senator BLUMENTHAL said. We have worked on this. We have met with colleagues. We have met with wonderful parents. We have met with principals and pediatricians and so many people that are involved in children's lives. That is why this legislation is focused on safety by design. And that is a change. That will be a change for social media. It will have that duty of care. There will be that toolbox for kids and parents to make it a safer environment. Those algorithms are going to have to be opened up. There is going to have to be a portal so bad actors in the virtual space can be reported, and the social media platforms will have to do something about it.

When we started focusing on these issues and doing our hearings, what became so evident to us, social media platforms knew. They knew that what they were doing and what they were allowing was causing harm. They knew it because the whistleblowers from those companies told us they knew it. But, you know what, they were putting profits before children. So they did it anyway. They did it knowing they were harming our children.

But children are not a product when they are online. That is the way social media has treated them. Indeed, Meta assigned a value to each child. That child is worth \$270 a year to that company. That is the callous nature with which they have approached this.

So we are ready to move forward with this today, and we do thank the parents who have shared their stories with us and have done more. They have advocated. They have worked. They have pulled neighbors and friends and those who work with children into a coalition. It has been pretty powerful.

So we are ready to move forward with this, and we do thank Senator BLUMENTHAL and his team. We thank the other Members of the Senate, the 70 cosponsors that are on this legislation with us. We thank Leader SCHUMER and Leader MCCONNELL for their work. Commerce Committee Chairman CANTWELL and Ranking Member CRUZ all have been supportive of moving this legislation. And it is, indeed, a testament to building consensus around bipartisan solutions that are going to last.

We also thank all of the groups and organizations that have worked with us to make certain that this legislation gets across the finish line. And as we pass it today and send it over to the House, we know that we have Chairwoman MCMORRIS RODGERS and Congresswoman KATHY CASTOR and Congressman BILIRAKIS. CASTOR and BILIRAKIS are the House leads on this legislation. There is broad bipartisan support in the House, and we know that the House leadership is supporting it. And we are ready to move this across the finish line and to the President's desk so that as kids head to school this year, they know they have new tools in the toolbox to protect themselves as they are in the virtual space.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act, a bill that includes an amended version of the Kids Online Safety Act and the Children and Teens Online Privacy Protection Act. I commend the bill's sponsors, Commerce Chair CANTWELL, Leader SCHUMER, and members like Senator WYDEN and the many outside advocates for children, civil rights, and privacy who have helped improve the bill to the version we are voting on today. I also appreciate the parents and students who have shared their experiences with me, particularly those who have turned great pain into advocacy to protect children.

While the internet is an invaluable tool for connecting people, disseminating information, and fostering an exchange of ideas, it can also be exploited to spread misinformation, harvest personal data, and prey on society's most vulnerable. The complex landscape can be especially difficult to navigate for young people, who deserve the freedom to access information and express themselves online but can also be subject to bullying, targeting, and privacy violations.

I had concerns about the Kids Online Safety Act as originally introduced, particularly provisions that could have permitted political censorship of content and falsely categorized basic information as dangerous or harmful. The bill before us today focuses instead on design elements to protect children online, including restricting features that encourage compulsive use, ensuring more transparency about how platforms use personalized recommendation systems and allow users to opt out of those systems, and providing op-

tional tools that can help parents manage their child's online experience while protecting young people's access to information. I became a cosponsor of the Kids Online Safety Act after these changes were included, strengthening the legislation while, in turn, preventing unintended consequences.

Congress will also have an obligation to ensure that the Federal Trade Commission implements this bill as intended, with clear guidance to platforms on how to comply with the law without restricting First Amendment-protected content or limiting privacy protections. I believe this legislation is a balanced approach to the serious challenge of protecting young people online, but will carefully monitor its implementation and effects to ensure it remains targeted to prevent harm.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this article on the history of privacy protections for children and teens from Common Sense Media be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Common Sense Media, July 29, 2024]

WHEN IT COMES TO PROTECTING KIDS' PRIVACY, CALL US THE ENERGIZER BUNNY—WE JUST WON'T QUIT WHEN IT COMES TO PROTECTING KIDS' ONLINE PRIVACY, BUT WE'RE ALMOST AT THE FINISH LINE

(By Ariel Fox Johnson)

For 14 years, Common Sense Media has been trying to get Congress to update the one federal law that protects children's privacy online: the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). We have fought to extend COPPA's protections to teenagers, since it only covers kids under age 13 today, and to ban targeted advertising that pushes unwanted products on kids. Congress has been a tough place to pass anything when it comes to kids and tech.

Our privacy advocacy began during the rise of the smartphone and mobile technology. And it has continued into a new age of biometrics, virtual reality, and the rise of AI. Children are living in a world of constantly increasing surveillance and data collection, and the stakes could not be higher.

We have been working alongside champions like Senator Ed Markey (D-MA), who passed COPPA into law in 1998 and introduced his first effort to update it, called the Do Not Track Kids Act, in 2011. He reintroduced it, or a version of it, every two years, and we supported him every time. It was lonely work. You can see our 2012 call to action, our 2013 blog post, and our 2019 call to action. We filed comments with the executive branch (2014 NTIA comments) asking for privacy for teens and more protections against targeted advertising. And we've filed many comments since then. We testified before Congress twice (2021 testimony one and two), always asking for updates to this foundational law. In the interim, while Congress did nothing, we turned to the states—playing the lead role in taking ideas from COPPA updates and getting them turned into laws such as California's Eraser Button (2013), the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) of 2018, the Maryland Online Data Privacy Act (2024), and the New York Child Data Protection Act (2024).

Ever since we started to advocate for children's privacy, concerns about this issue

have grown across almost every corner of the country. Sen. Markey has co-authored his COPPA update bills with Republicans every time, including Sen. Cassidy (R-LA) this year. And he has worked in both the House and the Senate on the same issues. In 2022, the bill passed a key committee, the Senate Commerce Committee, but then nothing else happened.

Until now.

In 2010, we called COPPA “woefully out of date.” On July 30, 2024, the U.S. Senate finally approved COPPA 2.0 as part of a larger bill that also addresses one of our other top priorities, social media health and safety for kids and teens. Congress is now the closest it has been in 25 years to finally updating privacy laws for kids. The next step is to get the U.S. House of Representatives to agree with what the Senate did this summer. We haven't rested over the past 14 years—and we won't until this job is done.

This story is a lesson in how hard it can be to get Congress to do the right thing. It's also a testament to our commitment to sticking with our mission to ensure a healthier digital world for all kids. The wait has been long and hard, and Congress's refusal to act has been inexcusable. But we are confident that the wait and the work will be worth it.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, today is a historic day. Today the U.S. Senate will vote on the Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act, which includes my legislation with Senator BILL CASSIDY from Louisiana, the Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, COPPA 2.0.

With this vote, the U.S. Senate will finally send a message to Big Tech that the days of indiscriminately tracking and targeting children and teens are over in our country; that their privacy-invasive business model must change; that young people and their parents are more important than shareholders' bank accounts.

This vote is long overdue. On June 20, 1996—June 20, 1996—more than 28 years ago, at the dawn of the information age, when only birds tweeted and “the gram” was simply a measurement, I stood before the House of Representatives and warned about the internet's unique threat to user privacy.

I stated then, in 1996, that the internet would allow corporate America to have the “opportunity to track the clickstream of a citizen of the Net, to sneak corporate hands into a personal information cookie jar and use [that] database to compile sophisticated, highly personal consumer profiles of people's hobbies, buying habits, financial information, health information, who they contact or converse with, when and for how long.” The internet would allow “digital desperadoes to roam the [internet] frontier unchecked.”

Two years later, Congress enacted my Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, or COPPA—that was 1998—and it was for kids under the age of 13. That is all I could get in 1998—protections for kids under 13, in our country—knowing that there was going to be an effort by corporate America to exploit those children.

Now, how did I know that? I knew it because I had been chairman over telecommunications in the 1980s, when the

television industry was targeting kids with advertising on Saturday morning cartoons, Saturday morning programs.

They were pretty much turning all the programs into one big ad targeted at vulnerable kids. And so I had to author the Children's Television Act of 1990 in order to put protections for television on the books. But then, as the internet evolved, the marketers, the targeters all moved over from television over to the internet. And with it, Congress has to follow them in order to pass the laws to protect children, to protect teenagers from being exploited by the very same marketers, the very same companies that sought to exploit them on television.

And as I explained back then, the original COPPA, or the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, can be summarized in three words: "disclosure," "knowledge," and "no"—disclosure of privacy policies, knowledge of information collected on our children, and no to the sale of the information. That information should only be used for the purposes for which the young person and their family had intended it.

So COPPA put real safeguards on the internet, at least for kids under the age of 13. But over the last 26 years, the Federal Trade Commission has brought dozens of cases against both household names, like Google, TikTok, and even Mrs. Fields Cookies, and lesser known entities. And during that period, the Federal Trade Commission has collected over half a billion dollars in fines for violations of COPPA, of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act.

The original COPPA law has done a lot of good. But as the years have passed and technology has evolved, our online world, once again, started to look like the Wild West with the desperadoes in charge, exploiting teenagers, exploiting children, using algorithms—powerful algorithms—to target those kids.

So, in 2011, I introduced my children and teens' privacy bill to update COPPA. And in every Congress since, I have continued to introduce that legislation, slowly developing coalitions, answering questions, building support to modernize and update COPPA to protect children and teens' privacy online.

And it can no longer be under the age of 13. Now we have to move it up to age 16 because we can see very clearly the targeting that goes on by these companies, the exploitation of the young people in our country, and the vulnerability of that group of Americans under the age of 17 who, according to the Surgeon General, according to the CDC, are in a mental health crisis in our country. And social media has been implicated by the Surgeon General, by the CDC, as one of the principal causes of this mental health crisis in our country.

And while knowledge and disclosure and no may have been effective during

the early internet era, today, that formula needs to be modified. The no must now be no, no, no; and that is the foundation of COPPA 2.0—no targeted advertising toward children and teenagers in our country, no excessive data collection of information of teens and children, no deliberately ignoring young users.

For over a decade, I have been fighting for these essential privacy protections. In fact, if COPPA 2.0 were a person, it would have just turned 13 and would have aged out of COPPA's critical privacy protections, and that is unacceptable.

I introduced it in 2011, but the power of those tech industries has blocked that progress that we needed. Yes, you want all the good things from the internet, but there is a Dickensian quality to the internet. It is the best of technologies and the worst of technologies simultaneously. It can enable; it can ennoble. But it can also degrade; it can debase.

And we must put these protections in because we know that these companies have been exploiting their ability to reach children and teenagers all across our country and, largely, unencumbered by any restrictions whatsoever.

I know that privacy can sometimes seem as an elusive concept because strong privacy rules sound great in theory, but what does that mean in practice? Well, with COPPA 2.0, here is what privacy is going to mean: It is going to mean privacy will put an end to the manipulative, personalized ads that trick young people into purchasing unwanted goods and services.

Privacy means stopping a search engine or social media site from collecting a teenager's eye color or location or other information which has nothing to do with why that young person had gone online in the first place. It is none of that company's business.

And it also means giving teens or parents an eraser button to delete a social media post—to tell the company: "Delete all that information you have gathered about me, a teenager"; or, as a parent, "that you have collected about my child. Erase it all."

And that right will be in the hands of the young person. It will be in the hands of the parent to just say: No, stop it. Stop collecting that information and delete whatever you have. Erase it.

So there will be an eraser button so a youthful mistake doesn't last forever.

So that is going to be a big home run, too, when we pass this legislation, to move the power over to the parents and to the young people. And, most importantly, privacy means a fighting chance for parents and young people who are struggling against trillion-dollar platforms looking for every way to keep kids and teens on their app.

Today, with passage of COPPA 2.0, the Senate takes a momentous step to stand up to the Big Tech lobbying machine; to stop the privacy-invasive

business model that exploits young people for profit; to give our high-tech regulator, the Federal Trade Commission, the tools to tame our modern, digital desperadoes who are out there trying to exploit young people in our country.

With AI supercharging Big Tech's algorithms and encouraging platforms to collect more data on young people, it has never been more important to protect our young people's privacy. With this vote, the Senate is finally meeting that moment.

When I was a boy and I was home with my mother and with my two brothers—and I would be 10 years old, 9 years old—a salesman would ring the doorbell, and my mother would tell me: Just go to where the letter opener is in the door and tell the salesman that your mother is not home.

And I would. And then I would go to my mother and say: But you are home.

And she would say: I am not home to him. He is not getting in our living room. It is 11 in the morning. We are not having a stranger in our living room with you and three small children. It is just not happening.

Well, that same sense of privacy is still present in American families, in America's mothers and fathers. They don't want strangers in their living rooms, in their kitchens, in their bedrooms, with their children.

And what has happened is that, in the internet age, those same salesmen have been able to get around that front door. They have been able to get into the lives of the children, of the teenagers in our country, in ways that the parents have had great difficulty in controlling.

And so what we are going to say here today on the floor of the Senate is no. We are going to change this balance of power. We are going to hand it over to the parents, hand it over to the children and the teenagers, so that we can just say to those salesmen, those digital salesmen, those digital desperadoes trying to take advantage of young people in our country: No, you cannot get in. You cannot compromise the well-being of the young people in this family.

So that is what this vote is all about. It is historic. It is long overdue. It was pretty clear what the business model of these companies was going to be long ago at the dawn of the era.

I was the Democratic author of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that moved America from analog to digital, from narrowband to broadband. Not one company in America had broadband in February of 1996, but it was all predictable.

The pediatricians in our country said: We must put protections in for this new digital world in 1996.

So it was highly predictable.

Those who cared about the well-being of children, of teenagers were saying it all back then. Nothing is new.

So today is a historic day, and we thank all of our partners for working

with us and all of the outside groups who have dedicated their time, their effort, their resources to getting this bill to the Senate floor.

I am deeply grateful to Senator SCHUMER for his partnership and leadership on this issue, to Chairwoman CANTWELL, to Ranking Member TED CRUZ, and to my partner Senator CASSIDY from Louisiana. In 1998, COPPA 1.0 was a partnership between myself and Billy Tauzin from Louisiana, and, today, with Senator CASSIDY, we are going to take COPPA 2.0, partner it with the legislation of Senator BLUMENTHAL and the Senator from Tennessee, and we are going to make history. And then we are going to get it over the finish line and onto the President's desk before the end of this year.

So I thank all the Members for their cooperation on this, and, again, I want to thank Senator SCHUMER for his great effort in expediting the movement of this legislation to the floor and for, I believe, its inexorable, inevitable passage.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, well, today is a momentous day. The Senate keeps its promise to every parent who has lost a child because of the risks of social media.

Today, after a lot of hard work, twists and turns, the Senate is passing two vital pieces of legislation with a strong bipartisan vote: the Kids Online Safety Act, or KOSA, and the Children and Teens' Online Prevention Act, or COPPA.

By passing KOSA and COPPA, we are one step closer to the most important update in decades to Federal laws protecting kids on the internet.

Once we act, the House should pass these bills as soon as they can.

This is such an important piece of legislation, and I say to my colleagues who have worked hard—Senators BLUMENTHAL and BLACKBURN, MARKEY and CASSIDY, DURBIN, KLOBUCHAR, Chair CANTWELL, and others—thank you.

But thank you, above all, to the parents who advocated so tirelessly for these bills. I have sat with them. I have heard the terrible stories—children, teenagers, perfectly normal. Some algorithm captures them online by accident, and they end up committing suicide shortly thereafter. I have heard those stories. Can you imagine being a parent and living with that?

So we have to do something. And these parents have turned their grief into grace. These parents are the reason that we succeeded today. Today the Senate tells the parents: We hear you. We are taking action.

I am so glad that we have a broad bipartisan vote here. It shows the Chamber can work on something important; that no one let partisanship get in the way of passing this important legislation.

But this is a historic moment. This is a moment when the Senate has said:

There have been horrible abuses. We must end them, and we will.

I yield the floor.

I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### ELIMINATE USELESS REPORTS ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to legislative session and resume consideration of the House message to accompany S. 2073, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany S. 2073, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Schumer amendment No. 3021 (to the House amendment to the bill), in the nature of a substitute.

Schumer amendment No. 3022 (to amendment No. 3021), to add an effective date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, amendment No. 3022 is withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 3022) was withdrawn.

### VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073 with amendment No. 3021.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The result was announced—yeas 91, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 221 Leg.]

YEAS—91

Baldwin	Butler	Cotton
Barrasso	Cantwell	Cramer
Bennet	Capito	Crapo
Blackburn	Cardin	Cruz
Blumenthal	Carper	Daines
Booker	Casey	Duckworth
Boozman	Cassidy	Durbin
Braun	Collins	Ernst
Britt	Coons	Fischer
Brown	Cornyn	Gillibrand
Budd	Cortez Masto	Graham

Grassley	Marshall	Schumer
Hagerty	McConnell	Scott (FL)
Hassan	Merkley	Shaheen
Hawley	Moran	Sinema
Heinrich	Mullin	Smith
Hickenlooper	Murkowski	Stabenow
Hirono	Murphy	Sullivan
Hoeven	Murray	Tester
Hyde-Smith	Ossoff	Thune
Johnson	Padilla	Tillis
Kaine	Peters	Tuberville
Kelly	Reed	Van Hollen
Kennedy	Ricketts	Warnock
King	Risch	Warren
Klobuchar	Rosen	Welch
Lankford	Rounds	Whitehouse
Lujan	Rubio	Wicker
Lummis	Sanders	Young
Manchin	Schatz	
Markey	Schmitt	

NAYS—3

Lee Paul Wyden

NOT VOTING—6

Fetterman Romney Vance  
Menendez Scott (SC) Warner

The motion was agreed to.  
(Mr. HICKENLOOPER assumed the Chair.)

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session.

## RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:01 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. LUJÁN).

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

### NOMINATION OF STACEY D. NEUMANN

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the nomination of Stacey Neumann to serve as a U.S. district court judge for the District of Maine.

I had the opportunity to meet with Ms. Neumann before her Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in May.

The committee has reported her nomination favorably with bipartisan support, and the Senate will be voting on her confirmation shortly.

I have decided to support this nominee based on her extensive legal experience—including as a Federal prosecutor—her in-depth interview with me, and her hearing testimony and background check. I have concluded that she possesses the integrity, intellect, and impartiality to serve in this critical position.

Ms. Neumann has served as a litigator at the law firm Murray Plumb & Murray in Portland, ME. She has been there since 2013 and handles criminal defense and civil litigation matters in State and Federal courts and agencies. Prior to this role, Ms. Neumann served in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maine as an assistant U.S. attorney, where she represented the Federal Government in a variety of criminal proceedings.