

June 12, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jefferies
House Minority Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leaders Thune, Schumer, Johnson, and Jefferies:

In 2023, the U.S. Surgeon General issued an advisory calling for urgent action from policymakers and technology companies saying “we are in the middle of a national youth mental health crisis, and I am concerned that social media is an important driver of that crisis – one that we must urgently address.”^[1] Studies overwhelmingly show the harms of children and teenagers spending too much time on social media, and how reducing the time spent on it has great benefits. ^[2]

We were excited to see Senators Schatz and Cruz team up last Congress to introduce bipartisan legislation addressing this issue but were disappointed when the Senate did not act. Senators Cruz and Schatz, joined by Representatives Latta and Schrier, have teamed up again on their bill, *The Kids Off Social Media Act*. Senators Cruz and Schatz already have passed it out of the Commerce Committee. We urge you to act to protect kids online. *The Kids Off Social Media Act* sets a fair, federal legislative standard for social media platforms to protect children.

Specifically, the bill will prohibit children under the age of 13 from creating or maintaining social media accounts, which is consistent with the current stated policy of the major social media companies. The bill also prohibits social media companies from pushing addictive, algorithmic-generated content to users under 17; allows the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and state attorneys generals to enforce the bill; and requires schools to block students’ access to social media on schools’ federally funded networks and devices.

These important provisions will protect kids’ mental health, ensure their growth and development, all while making sure the FTC is holding the social media platforms accountable for their actions against children.

This is a bipartisan, common-sense bill that is a win for kids, parents, teachers, schools, and the mental health of our youth. The Senate should promptly move to consideration of *The Kids Off Social Media Act*. We the undersigned organizations wholeheartedly urge every senator to vote in favor of this important legislation.

CC: Sen. Cruz, Sen. Schatz, Rep. Guthrie, Rep. Pallone, Rep. Latta, and Rep. Schrier

Sincerely,

National Organization for Women

Digital Progress Institute

Bull Moose Project

Talk More. Tech Less

Citizens for Decency

HSA Coalition

Family Policy Alliance

Count on Mothers

Conservative Ladies of America

David's Legacy Foundation

Parents Defending Education Action

American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry

Parents Who Fight

Citizens for Renewing America

Tyler Clementi Foundation

¹¹ *Surgeon General Issues New Advisory About Effects Social Media Use Has on Youth Mental Health.* HHS.gov. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/05/23/surgeon-general-issues-new-advisory-about-effects-social-media-use-has-on-youth-mental-health.html>

¹² *Social Media and Youth Mental Health - The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory.* HHS.gov. <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/sg-youth-mental-health-social-media-advisory.pdf>