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LETTER TO CONGRESS

Subject: Proposal for Age Verification Measures on Internet-Enabled Devices

Dear Legislator's,

I am writing to propose a legislative measure aimed at enhancing the protection of minors from accessing inappropriate online content. Given the ubiquity of smartphones, tablets, and other internet-enabled devices, it is crucial that we address the issue of underage exposure to harmful material and take proactive steps to ensure a safer digital environment for children and adolescents.

Proposal Summary:

The proposed legislation seeks to mandate age verification measures on internet-enabled devices at the point of purchase or activation. By implementing this requirement, content providers would have a reliable means to verify the real age of users, thus enabling better control over access to age-restricted content.

Key Components of the Proposal:

1. **Device Activation:** Manufacturers and sellers of internet-enabled devices shall be responsible for incorporating an age verification mechanism during device activation. This process should prompt users to verify their age through a secure and privacy-conscious method.
2. **Secure Age Verification:** The age verification method should be reliable, secure, and designed with privacy protections in mind. It should comply with data protection laws and ensure that personal information is handled responsibly and transparently.
3. **Industry Collaboration:** Government bodies should collaborate with device manufacturers, technology companies, and content providers to establish standardized protocols and technical requirements for age verification. Encouraging cooperation and knowledge sharing among stakeholders will help ensure effective implementation.
4. **Education and Awareness:** Alongside the legislation, awareness campaigns and educational programs should be launched to educate parents, guardians, and young individuals about the importance of age verification, responsible online behavior, and the potential risks associated with accessing inappropriate content.

5. **Enforcement and Penalties:** Establish enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance with the age verification requirement. Penalties should be put in place for non-compliant manufacturers or sellers, while providing mechanisms for remediation and appeals.

Expected Benefits:

1. **Protection of Minors:** Implementing age verification measures on devices will serve as an additional layer of protection against minors accessing inappropriate or harmful online content, fostering a safer online environment for children and adolescents.

2. **Parental Peace of Mind:** The proposed legislation will provide parents and guardians with increased confidence that age restrictions are being enforced and that their children are less likely to stumble upon explicit or inappropriate material.

3. **Industry Accountability:** By placing responsibility on device manufacturers, the legislation encourages industry stakeholders to prioritize user safety, further driving the development of secure and effective age verification technologies.

Conclusion:

Addressing the issue of age-restricted content access requires a multi-faceted approach involving government, industry, and public awareness. I believe that implementing age verification measures on internet-enabled devices will be a significant step forward in protecting our children from harmful online content.

I kindly request your consideration and support for this proposal. I am available to discuss the details further and provide any additional information required. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David H. [unclear]". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.