



July 2024

## PATH EDUCATION

The work to create internet safety for children has been ongoing for decades. On July 30, **the Senate passed the first online safety act since 1998**. The Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA) passed the Senate 91-3. News outlets report that the bill has momentum heading into the House. And while the majority of people support online safety to protect our children, **the bill does have opponents including big tech companies and the ACLU**.

A summary of the bill from congress.gov is below:

This bill sets out requirements to protect minors from online harms. The requirements apply to covered platforms, which are applications or services (e.g., social networks) that connect to the internet and are likely to be used by minors. However, the bill exempts internet service providers, email services, educational institutions, and other specified entities from the requirements. Covered platforms must take reasonable measures in the design and operation of products or services used by minors to prevent and mitigate certain harms that may arise from that use (e.g., sexual exploitation and online bullying). Additionally, covered platforms must provide (1) minors with certain safeguards, such as settings that restrict access to minors' personal data; and (2) parents or guardians with tools to supervise minors' use of a platform, such as control of privacy and account settings.

Covered platforms must also

- disclose specified information, including details regarding the use of personalized recommendation systems and individual-specific advertising to minors;
- allow parents, guardians, minors, and schools to report certain harms;
- refrain from facilitating advertising of age-restricted products or services (e.g., tobacco and gambling) to minors; and
- annually report on foreseeable risks of harm to minors from using the platform.

Additionally, the bill requires large (based on specified revenue, employment, or user criteria) websites, internet applications, and search engines (including social network sites) to meet certain requirements before using algorithms that prioritize information furnished to the user based on user-specific data. For example, such platforms must (1) provide users with notice that the website uses such algorithms, and (2) make available a version of the platform that uses

algorithms that do not prioritize information based on user data.

The bill provides for enforcement through the Federal Trade Commission and states.

Further, the bill requires the commission to seek to contract with the National Academy of Sciences to study the risks of harm to minors by the use of social media and other online platforms.

The bill establishes a council to advise on implementing the bill. It also requires guidance for market and product research focused on minors and an evaluation of options to verify a user's age.

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On July 10, PATH was invited by Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness' Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness to participate in a panel discussion on human trafficking at its quarterly staff training. PATH Vice Chair, Dr. Theresa Hayden, and PATH Contributor, Jaime Thompson participated along with Louisville Metro Police Department Investigator, Kira Asher.



The panel gave insight into human trafficking from an overview along with an in the trenches perspective to over 30 LMPHW employees. The group also heard from Jennifer Pyle, a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) nurse regarding what trafficking looks like in the healthcare setting. The Louisville Zoo hosted and provided some special guests to entertain the attendees prior to the meeting.



On July 16, PATH Vice Chair, Dr. Theresa Hayden was invited to speak to the Sisters of Loretto at their motherhouse in Bardstown, KY. There were about 30 sisters in attendance and this connection was made thanks to former PATH board member, Mariela Ramirez. The Catholic Sisterhood is overall very concerned with the crime of human trafficking and how we, as a people, can unite to stop it. We appreciate the Sisters of Loretto inviting PATH out to give them even more education on the subject.

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## PATH AND YOU



### Save The Date

Give For Good, sponsored by the Community Foundation of Louisville, will be held on **Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024**. PATH will once again be participating in this day long fundraising event. You don't have to be local to Louisville to participate so tell your friends and colleagues to save the date as well. More information to come in August. And bookmark this [link](#) to make your donation on Sept. 12.



PATH is pleased to announce we are a beneficiary of the Kroger Community Rewards program. Please consider selecting PATH Coalition of KY as your community rewards recipient and PATH will receive a % of your shopping

purchases over the course of the year. It's easy to set up and costs you nothing more than a few minutes of time.

Follow instructions here: [Kroger Community Rewards Instructions](#)

or

Sign in to your account at [kroger.com](#), go to My Account, Select Community Rewards from the left hand menu, search for PATH Coalition of KY, click Enroll.

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