

As Introduced

135th General Assembly

Regular Session

2023-2024

H. B. No. 17

Representatives Schmidt, Swearingen

**Cosponsors: Representatives Johnson, Holmes, Seitz, Loychik, Jordan, LaRe,
Carruthers, Brennan, Richardson**

A BILL

To enact section 125.183 of the Revised Code to 1
prohibit state officials, employees, and 2
contractors from using TikTok, WeChat, or any 3
other application or service owned by an entity 4
located in China. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 125.183 of the Revised Code be 6
enacted to read as follows: 7

Sec. 125.183. (A) As used in this section: 8

(1) "Covered application" means all of the following: 9

(a) The TikTok application and service or any successor 10
application or service developed or provided by ByteDance 11
limited or an entity owned by ByteDance limited; 12

(b) The WeChat application and service or any successor 13
application or service developed or provided by Tencent holdings 14
limited or an entity owned by Tencent holdings limited; 15

(c) Any application or service owned by an entity located 16

in China, including QQ International (QQi), Qzone, Weibo, Xiao 17
HongShu, Zhihu, Meituan, Toutiao, Alipay, Xiami Music, Tiantian 18
Music, DingTalkfDing Ding, Douban, RenRen, Youku/Tudou, Little 19
Red Book, and Zhihu. 20

(2) "State agency" means every organized body, office, or 21
agency established by the laws of this state for the exercise of 22
any function of state government, other than any state-supported 23
institution of higher education, the courts, or any judicial 24
agency. "State agency" includes the general assembly, any 25
legislative agency, and the capitol square review and advisory 26
board. 27

(B) Subject to division (C) of this section, the state 28
chief information officer shall adopt rules under Chapter 119. 29
of the Revised Code to do all of the following: 30

(1) Require state agencies immediately to remove any 31
covered application from all equipment they own or lease; 32

(2) Prohibit all of the following on equipment owned or 33
leased by a state agency: 34

(a) The downloading, installation, or use of a covered 35
application; 36

(b) The downloading, installation, or use of a covered 37
application using an internet connection provided by a state 38
agency; 39

(c) The downloading, installation, or use of a covered 40
application by any officer, employee, or contractor of a state 41
agency. 42

(3) Require state agencies to take measures to prevent the 43
downloading, installation, or use of a covered application as 44

described in division (B)(2) of this section. 45

(C) The rules adopted under division (B) of this section 46
shall include exceptions to allow a qualified person to 47
download, install, or use a covered application for law 48
enforcement or information technology security purposes, so long 49
as the person takes appropriate measures to mitigate the 50
security risks involved in doing so. 51

(D) Notwithstanding any provision of section 121.95 of the 52
Revised Code to the contrary, a regulatory restriction contained 53
in a rule adopted under this section is not subject to sections 54
121.95 to 121.953 of the Revised Code. 55