

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Patricia Daniels, and I raised four children here in Ohio before retiring from state service. I'm writing to support SB 167, the App Store Accountability Act.

When my kids were growing up, I knew who they were talking to on the phone, what movies they rented, which friends' houses they visited. Parents today face a much harder job. Apps appear constantly, each with different rules and hidden features, and kids can access them faster than parents can research them.

This bill restores something fundamental: a parent's right to know. Before my child downloads an app, I get a notification. I can say yes or no. It's that straightforward.

What makes this approach smart is that it protects children's privacy while giving parents control. Instead of forcing kids to hand over personal information to dozens of different companies for age verification, it happens once at the app store. One secure checkpoint. Less data floating around means less risk.

I've watched friends struggle to keep up with constantly changing platform settings, trying to monitor multiple apps with different parental controls. It's overwhelming, and when parents feel overwhelmed, they give up. That's when kids slip through the cracks.

The App Store Accountability Act doesn't complicate parenting—it simplifies it. One decision point. Clear notification. Simple approval.

After decades of working in state government, I learned that good policy solves problems without creating new ones. Pass SB 167.

Thank you for your consideration on this very important issue.

Patricia Daniels
Gahanna, Ohio