

Chairman Wison, Vice Chairman Lang, Ranking Member Craig and members of the committee,

I'm Paul Jones from Blacklick, and I'm here supporting SB 167, the App Store Accountability Act. I'm not a parent myself, but I have several nieces and nephews, and I watch my siblings navigate the impossible task of monitoring their kids' online activity.

My brother and sister-in-law both work full-time jobs. They're good parents who will do anything to keep their kids safe online, but the current system sets them up to fail. Every app has different settings. Every platform requires a separate account and different privacy controls. It's designed for tech experts, not busy families.

In my work in sales, I know that if you want people to actually use something, you make it simple. The App Store Accountability Act does that. One notification when kids try to download an app. Parents approve or deny. Done.

This isn't about blocking kids from technology—my nieces and nephews need digital skills for their future. But they also need guidance while they're learning. Right now, parents find out about problematic apps only after something's gone wrong. This bill changes that by keeping parents in the loop from the start.

I've seen my family members try to keep up with the latest apps and trends. It's exhausting, and eventually even the most dedicated parents can't do it all. This legislation gives them a fighting chance.

Ohio families need practical tools that actually work. This is one of them.

Paul Jones
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