

Chairman Wilson, Vice Chairman Lang, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance and Technology Committee,

My name is Dr. Ronald Stacy. I practice in Upper Arlington, and my wife and I are raising a teenager in Pickerington. I'm here to support SB 167, the App Store Accountability Act.

In my practice, I see patients struggling with technology overuse and the anxiety that comes from constant digital exposure. Parents tell me they feel helpless—they know their kids need boundaries online, but the tools available are either too complicated or too easy to bypass.

SB 167 addresses this by creating a simple gateway. Before an app is downloaded, parents receive notification and can approve or deny the request. It's not about controlling every aspect of a teen's digital life. It's about maintaining awareness during critical developmental years.

Other approaches to online safety miss the mark by creating fragmented systems that require parents to navigate multiple platforms and settings. That complexity leads to inconsistent enforcement, which ultimately fails kids who need steady guidance.

What makes this legislation particularly strong is its privacy protection. Rather than requiring teenagers to share personal information across countless apps and websites for age verification, it centralizes that process at the app store. Fewer data collection points mean reduced risk.

As both a healthcare provider and a parent, I recognize that protecting young people requires practical solutions. SB 167 offers exactly that—a straightforward mechanism that parents can actually use consistently.

I urge this committee to pass this legislation.

Dr. Ronald Stacy
Pickerington, Ohio