

Chairman and committee members, thank you for this opportunity.

I'm Julia Khouri from Hamilton County, a mother of four and a former attorney. My legal background taught me to look carefully at how laws will function in practice, not just how they sound in theory. SB 167, the App Store Accountability Act, is legislation that will actually work for Ohio families.

The bill's strength lies in its simplicity. It creates one notification at one logical point—when a child attempts to download an app through the app store. Parents receive that notification and can approve or deny it. There's no complicated infrastructure to build, no new technology to develop, because app stores already have these capabilities. They already notify parents about purchases. This extends that existing system to include app downloads.

As a mother, I understand the challenge of monitoring four children's online activities while managing everything else life requires. I can't be everywhere at once, and I can't become an expert in every platform's unique parental control system. What I can do is respond to a single, clear notification when my children want to add new apps to their devices.

The privacy protections in this bill are equally important. By centralizing age verification at the app store, we limit how many entities collect and store our children's personal information. Every additional company that holds that data represents another potential vulnerability.

SB 167 is practical, enforceable, and respects both parental authority and children's privacy.

I urge you to pass this legislation.

Julia Khouri
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