

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SOCIAL MEDIA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the popular video-
- 2 sharing platform TikTok boasts over one billion global users,
- 3 including nearly forty per cent of the United States' mobile
- 4 internet users. TikTok is currently one of the fastest growing
- 5 social media applications in the world, and in 2021, surpassed
- 6 Google as the world's most popular internet site.
- 7 The legislature further finds that TikTok poses serious
- 8 national security concerns due to its ties with the Chinese
- 9 Communist Party (CCP). Its parent company, ByteDance, is
- 10 headquartered in Beijing, China, and under Chinese law, Chinese
- 11 companies operating in China are compelled to share their data
- 12 with the government upon request. The Director of the United
- 13 States Federal Bureau of Investigation has warned that the CCP
- 14 could harness the application to influence American users or
- 15 control or compromise software on millions of electronic
- 16 devices.

- 1 The legislature finds that ByteDance has refused to cease
- 2 this data flow to the Chinese government despite requests from
- 3 the United States Committee on Foreign Investment to do so and
- 4 the CCP may use the United States' user information for
- 5 intelligence gathering, intellectual property theft, and other
- 6 illicit purposes.
- 7 The legislature finds that TikTok has a powerful algorithm
- 8 which personalizes the videos shown to users based on their
- 9 interactions with content, addictive to the point of being
- 10 dubbed 'digital fentanyl'. Because the vast majority of TikTok
- 11 users are young adults and adults ages 18 to 34, the legislature
- 12 therefore believes that the privacy of an emerging generation is
- 13 under threat.
- 14 The legislature finds that bipartisan legislation has been
- 15 introduced in the United States Congress to ban TikTok from
- 16 operating in the United States. Until then, a long list of
- 17 entities have already taken measures to defend their
- 18 cybersecurity, including the United States Congress, United
- 19 States military branches, United States state departments and
- 20 agencies, and nearly two dozen states.

1 The legislature finds that it is in the best interest of 2 the state to follow the lead of these entities and states to 3 protect the state's cybersecurity. 4 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to prohibit all 5 employees of the state government from downloading or using the 6 TikTok application or visit the TikTok website on state internet 7 networks and government-issued devices, including state-issued 8 cell phones, laptops, on any device capable of internet 9 connectivity, and on government-financed internet networks. 10 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by 11 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read 12 as follows: 13 "CHAPTER 14 SOCIAL MEDIA ON GOVERNMENT-ISSUED DEVICES 15 § -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the 16 context otherwise requires: 17 "Information technology" means any equipment or 18 interconnected system or subsystem of equipment used in the 19 automatic acquisition, storage, analysis, evaluation, 20 manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information. 21

1	"Covered application" means the social networking service
2	TikTok or any application or service developed or provided by
3	ByteDance Limited or any entity owned by ByteDance Limited.
4	"§ -2 Removal of certain social media applications;
5	established. (a) The director of the office of enterprise
6	technology services, in consultation with the chief information
7	officer, shall develop guidelines, standards, and an
8	implementation date for all state branches of government
9	requiring the removal of any covered application from
10	information technology, and the access of covered the covered
11	applications' websites on any state-funded internet network.
12	(b) The standards and guidelines established under
13	subsection (a) shall include exceptions for:
14	(1) Law enforcement activities, national security
15	interests and activities, and security research
16	activity; and
17	(2) For any authorized use of a covered application under
18	an exception, requirements for agencies to develop and
19	document risk mitigation actions for such use.
20	(c) These standards shall be implemented no later than
21	December 31, 2023.

- 1 SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act, or the
- 2 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
- 3 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
- 4 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
- 5 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
- 6 of this Act are severable.

7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect pon its approva

INTRODUCED BY:

Report Title:

Social media; TikTok; Government-issued devices; Government networks; Ban

Description:

Prohibits the downloading or use of social media application TikTok on government-issued devices capable of internet connectivity, or on government internet networks.

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