



CENTER FOR  
DIGITAL  
DEMOCRACY



December 11, 2024

**UPDATED with additional signatories: December 12, 2024**

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
568 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2433 Rayburn House Office  
Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Passage of the Children and Teens’ Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA 2.0)**

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Jeffries,

Today we write as a coalition of advocates dedicated to the mental and physical health, privacy, safety, and education of our nation’s youth, urging you to pass the Children and Teens’ Online Privacy Protection Act, also known as COPPA 2.0, without delay. With mere days remaining in this legislative session, it is imperative that Congress prioritize common sense privacy protections for children and teens by updating the decades-old Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) and passing COPPA 2.0 now.

COPPA 2.0 is an effective, widely supported, bipartisan update to its 25-year-old predecessor. It extends privacy protections to teens, implements strong data minimization principles, bans targeted advertising to covered minors, gives families greater control over their data, and strengthens the law to ensure covered entities cannot evade enforcement. American families urgently need these protections. Big Tech’s business model relies on the collection of millions of

data points on children and teens, all to rake in record profits through design features that maximize engagement in order to sell targeted ads. The use of targeted advertising results in kids being shown ads for alcohol, tobacco, diet pills, or gambling sites. These risks are multiplied because social media platforms are designed to be addictive, so that kids will spend more time online. As the Surgeon General has advised, this misuse of young people's personal information has contributed to a [startling mental health crisis](#) among our youth, along with a myriad of online harms including sexual exploitation, rampant cyberbullying, and eating disorders. The data-driven business model is directly at odds with the health, safety, and privacy of our nation's children and teens, and Congress must act to put new safeguards in place.

We are thankful for the Senate's work in passing COPPA 2.0 as part of the Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act (KOSPA) by a vote of 91-3 on July 30, 2024. We are also thankful for the work of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which approved COPPA 2.0 on September 18, 2024. COPPA 2.0 has longstanding and immense bipartisan support. America's children and families cannot wait any longer. This is your chance to protect kids and teens on the internet as it looks today. With our utmost respect, we ask that you include the strongest version of COPPA 2.0 in an end of the year package. The time is now for Congress to pass COPPA 2.0!

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics

Center for Digital Democracy

Common Sense Media

Fairplay

#HalfTheStory

ACCESS Lab at Washington University in St. Louis

AESA

Alexander Neville Foundation

Amanda Birkhead Nutrition Counseling LLC

American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work

American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

American Psychological Association Services Inc.

Anxiety and Depression Association of America

Becca Schmill Foundation

Berkeley Media Studies Group

Carly Ryan Foundation

Center for Online Safety

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Children and Screens: Institute of Digital Media and Child Development

Children's Justice Fund

Clinical Social Work Association  
Consumer Action  
Consumer Federation of America (CFA)  
Design It For Us  
Devin J Norring Foundation  
Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy, & Action  
Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC)  
Erik's Cause  
Farrington Specialty Centers  
IFEDD, The International Federation of Eating Disorder Dietitians  
Issue One  
Jewish Family and Children's Services, SF Bay Area  
Lynn's Warriors  
Mental Health America  
Mental Health America of Greater Houston  
Mental Health America of Hawaii  
Mental Health America of Illinois  
Michigan Eating Disorders Alliance, dba MiEDA  
Multi Service Eating Disorders Association, Inc (MEDA)  
National Association for Pupil Transportation  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Center of Excellence for Eating Disorders  
National Federation of Families  
National League for Nursing  
Parents Television and Media Council  
Parents Who Fight  
Peace Educators Allied for Children Everywhere (P.E.A.C.E)  
Postpartum Support International  
Protect Young Eyes  
Psychotherapy Action Network  
Public Interest Privacy Center  
Rudd Center for Food Policy and Health  
Sandy Hook Promise  
Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology, APA Division 53  
Stop Predatory Gambling  
Strategic Training Initiative for the Prevention of Eating Disorders  
Student Data Privacy Project  
The Kennedy Forum  
The Tech Oversight Project

[truthinadvertising.org](http://truthinadvertising.org) (TINA.org)

U.S. PIRG

Victus Counseling

Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America

Wealth Management Ministries-Prevention Works Joint Task Force and Coalition

Western Youth Services

Yellowstone Human Trafficking Task Force