

1 HJR185
2 185724-4
3 By Representative Williams (JD)
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 13-FEB-18

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8 ESTABLISHING THE ALABAMA COMMISSION ON CHILD
9 PROTECTION.

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11 WHEREAS, the Legislature is committed to the
12 protection and well-being of all citizens of this state and
13 particularly the children of Alabama; and

14 WHEREAS, learning to use electronic communication
15 devices and having Internet access is essential for the
16 education of the children of Alabama; and

17 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that electronic
18 communications and the Internet frequently contain
19 communications and information that are inappropriate for
20 children and may be used by others in a patently offensive
21 way, lacking literary, artistic, political, scientific, or
22 educational value and may entice unsuspecting children into
23 activities that are potentially dangerous; and

24 WHEREAS, electronic communications and the Internet
25 may be used to lure children into illegal activities such as
26 human trafficking and prostitution; and

1 WHEREAS, solutions to enhance the safety of the
2 children in this state using electronic communications and the
3 Internet would benefit children and the general public, and
4 may reduce crimes in Alabama; and

5 WHEREAS, it is imperative that areas of risk be
6 identified in order to advance proven and innovative
7 technologies and procedures to promote the safety and
8 protection of the children of Alabama who use electronic
9 communications and the Internet; now therefore,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Alabama
12 Commission on Child Protection to conduct a review of current
13 state laws, rules, and procedures regarding the protection of
14 children using electronic communications and the Internet, and
15 recommend improvements, including innovative technology,
16 improved methods to filter what is available to children on
17 the Internet, methods to monitor and track electronic
18 communications that may be harmful to children, and other
19 measures to promote and enhance child protection and safety in
20 this state.

21 (a) Membership of the Alabama Commission on Child
22 Protection shall be comprised of the following:

23 (1) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or his
24 or her designee.

25 (2) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or
26 his or her designee.

1 (3) The Director of the Alabama Department of Human
2 Resources, or his or her designee.

3 (4) A pediatrician appointed by the Speaker of the
4 House of Representatives.

5 (5) A child psychologist appointed by the President
6 Pro Tempore of the Senate.

7 (6) The Director of the Alabama Public Health
8 Department, or his or her designee.

9 (7) One member representing education appointed by
10 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

11 (8) One member representing education appointed by
12 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

13 (9) The Director of the Department of Mental Health,
14 or his or her designee.

15 (10) One member representing education appointed by
16 the Governor.

17 (11) The Attorney General of Alabama, or his or her
18 designee.

19 (12) The Executive Director of the Office of
20 Prosecution Services, or his or her designee.

21 (13) One member representing Internet Service
22 Providers appointed by the Speaker of the House of
23 Representatives.

24 (14) One member representing mobile phone
25 manufacturing appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
26 Senate.

1 (15) One member of an organization associated with
2 family health and well-being appointed by the President Pro
3 Tempore of the Senate.

4 (16) One member with an organization focused on
5 civil liberties, including freedom of speech, appointed by the
6 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

7 (b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate
8 their appointments to assure membership of the Alabama
9 Commission on Child Protection is inclusive and reflects the
10 racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic
11 diversity of the state.

12 (c) The commission shall have the following duties:

13 (1) Perform a complete and comprehensive review and
14 assessment of current state laws and rules regarding child
15 protection as it pertains to the use of the Internet and
16 electronic communication devices, child pornography,
17 solicitation for prostitution, human trafficking, and the
18 reproduction and publication of obscene material.

19 (2) Recommend improvements for the safety of
20 children who use the Internet and electronic communication
21 devices.

22 (3) Recommend legislation to implement methods to
23 improve the safety of children using the Internet and
24 electronic communication devices.

25 (d) (1) Appointments to the commission shall be made
26 within 30 days after the effective date of this act.

1 (2) The commission shall hold its first meeting no
2 later than August 1, 2018, with the date, time, and location
3 of the meeting designated by the President Pro Tempore of the
4 Senate.

5 (3) At the first meeting, the commission shall elect
6 a chair, vice chair, and other officers as determined by the
7 commission, and shall set dates, times, and locations of
8 subsequent meetings.

9 (e) The House of Representatives and the Senate
10 shall provide the necessary staff and support to the
11 commission to perform its duties.

12 (f) Members of the commission shall serve without
13 compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses to
14 attend meetings of the commission according to the policies
15 and procedures of their respective appointing authority.

16 (g) The commission shall submit its findings and
17 recommendations in writing to the Legislature no later than
18 the fifth Legislative day of the 2019 Regular Session, at
19 which time the commission shall be dissolved.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all state agencies are
21 urged to cooperate fully with the commission in accomplishing
22 the objectives of the commission, and that a copy of this
23 resolution be presented to the appointing authorities set out
24 above so that our sincere and continuing interest in this
25 matter is known.