

# S. 1748 The Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA)

KOSA, was introduced by Senators Blackburn and Blumenthal after hearings on big tech's failure to protect kids. In 2024, KOSA passed the Senate with a **historic 91-3** bipartisan vote. Backed by over 250 organizations, including Apple, KOSA would become the first major **consumer privacy & child online safety measure to pass Congress in 26 years.**

**KOSA has been reintroduced in the 119th Congress and it must pass this session. Here's why:**

## 1 Creates a duty of care for platforms

Shifts social media platforms' profit-driven models to prioritize the needs of children by focusing on platform design and functionality. This ensures minors are not exposed to harmful or exploitative material online, including eating disorders, illegal substances, promotion of suicide, and the sexual exploitation of minors from targeting users.

## 2 Protects children online

Ensures that minors' accounts default to the highest privacy settings and gives them the ability to protect their personal information, disable addictive features, and avoid harmful addictive algorithms. Additionally, minors can disable private messaging from strangers and turn off geotagging features that allow offenders and drug dealers to target minors

## 3 Introduces a transparency standard for platforms

Makes algorithmic data available to researchers and public interest groups, and requires audits to assess platforms' impact on kids' well-being.

## 4 Ensures protective tools for parents and educators

Provides parents with new controls to safeguard their children and identify harmful behaviors, along with a dedicated reporting channel for both parents and educators.