

By: Schatzline

H.B. No. 4189

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to content filters provided by Internet service providers.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 10, Business & Commerce Code, is amended by adding Chapter 330 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 330. CONTENT FILTERS PROVIDED BY INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS

Sec. 330.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Customer" means a person in this state who purchases Internet service from an Internet service provider.

(2) "Explicit material" means visual material depicting:

(A) the intimate parts of a person;

(B) sexual conduct; or

(C) simulated sexual conduct.

(3) "Filter" means software provided to a customer by an Internet service provider that is capable of preventing the customer from accessing or displaying explicit material.

(4) "Internet service provider" means a person providing connectivity to the Internet or another wide area network.

(5) "Sexual conduct" has the meaning assigned by Section 21.16, Penal Code.

(6) "Simulated" has the meaning assigned by Section

1 21.16, Penal Code.

2 (7) "Visual material" has the meaning assigned by  
3 Section 21.16, Penal Code.

4 Sec. 330.002. OPTIONAL CONTENT FILTER. (a) An Internet  
5 service provider shall make available to each customer a filter  
6 that the customer can choose to enable on the customer's Internet  
7 service.

8 (b) A filter described by Subsection (a), when enabled,  
9 must:

10 (1) prevent a customer from accessing, downloading, or  
11 displaying explicit material when using the Internet service  
12 provided by the Internet service provider; and

13 (2) notify the customer using the Internet service  
14 when the filter prevents the customer from accessing or displaying  
15 explicit material.

16 (c) An Internet service provider shall make the filter  
17 described by Subsection (a) available at no additional cost to the  
18 customer.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.