

By the Committee on Governmental Oversight and Productivity;  
and Senator Campbell

302-2126-00

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to obscenity; requiring public  
3           libraries to install and maintain computer  
4           software or equivalent technology that  
5           prohibits access to obscene materials by  
6           minors; providing that the installation of  
7           software or technology in a library having only  
8           one public-access computer is within the  
9           library's discretion; providing a finding of  
10          important state interest; providing an  
11          effective date.

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13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15           Section 1. Each public library that makes available  
16 for public use computer on-line service, Internet service, or  
17 local bulletin-board service shall install and maintain  
18 computer software or equivalent technology on any computer  
19 that is made available to persons under 18 years of age which  
20 prohibits access to materials that contain obscene  
21 descriptions, photographs, or depictions. If the library has  
22 only one computer available for public use, the installation  
23 of such software or technology shall be within the discretion  
24 of the library.

25           Section 2. In accordance with section 18, Article VII  
26 of the State Constitution, the Legislature finds that the  
27 installation and maintenance by public libraries of computer  
28 software or equivalent technology that prohibits access by  
29 persons under 18 years of age to obscene materials fulfills an  
30 important state interest.

31           Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SB 1716

Provides that technology which prohibits access to obscenity need only be installed on public library computers which are open to minors, rather than on at least one-half of the library's computers.

Adds that if the library has only one public access computer that it is within the library's discretion to decide whether to install filtering technology.

Adds a legislative finding that prohibiting minors from accessing obscenity on public library computers fulfills an important state interest.