

By the Committee on Education Pre-K -12; and Senators Burgess, Osgood, Avila, and Calatayud

581-02014-23

202352c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to student use of social media
3 platforms; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; requiring
4 members of the instructional staff of public schools
5 to provide instruction on social media safety;
6 defining the term "social media"; requiring the
7 Department of Education to make social media safety
8 instructional material available online; requiring
9 district school boards to notify parents of the
10 availability of the instructional material; providing
11 requirements for the instructional material developed
12 by the department; defining the term "digital
13 citizenship"; specifying required components of the
14 instructional material; creating s. 1006.1494, F.S.;
15 requiring each school district to prohibit and prevent
16 students from accessing social media platforms through
17 the use of Internet access provided by the school
18 district; providing an effective date.

19
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

21
22 Section 1. Paragraph (u) is added to subsection (2) of
23 section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

24 1003.42 Required instruction.—

25 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public
26 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education
27 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and
28 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the
29 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,

581-02014-23

202352c1

30 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing
31 approved methods of instruction, the following:

32 (u) Social media safety. For purposes of this paragraph,
33 the term "social media" means a form of interactive electronic
34 communication through an Internet website or application by
35 which a user creates a service-specific identifying user profile
36 to connect with other users of the Internet website or
37 application for the purpose of communicating and sharing
38 information, ideas, news, stories, opinions, images, videos, and
39 other content. The Department of Education shall make social
40 media safety instructional material available online and
41 district school boards shall notify parents of the material's
42 online availability. The material must include age-appropriate
43 and developmentally appropriate instruction on social media
44 safety for students in grades 6 through 12 and focus on the
45 social, emotional, and physical effects of social media and
46 promote best practices in digital citizenship. For purposes of
47 this requirement, "digital citizenship" means the norms of
48 appropriate, responsible, and healthy behavior related to social
49 media, including digital literacy, ethics, etiquette, and
50 security. The social media safety instruction must include:

51 1. The advantages of social media use. Such instruction may
52 only include career and resume building for future academic or
53 employment opportunities, sharing information with familiar
54 family and friends, and safely connecting with other users with
55 like interests.

56 2. The risks of social media, including, but not limited
57 to, social media addiction, publication of misinformation,
58 negative effects on mental health, and the permanent nature of

581-02014-23

202352c1

59 content shared online.

60 3. How to safely use social media, including, but not
61 limited to, maintaining personal security, preventing
62 oversharing of personal information, identifying predatory
63 behavior and human trafficking, and reporting suspicious
64 behavior.

65

66 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
67 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.
68 Instructional programming that incorporates the values of the
69 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
70 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or
71 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness
72 initiative meets the requirements of paragraph (t).

73 Section 2. Section 1006.1494, Florida Statutes, is created
74 to read:

75 1006.1494 Prohibiting student access to social media
76 platforms.—Each school district shall prohibit and prevent
77 students from accessing social media platforms through the use
78 of Internet access provided by the school district.

79 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.