



HR0014 Enrolled

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 14

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WHEREAS, Four out of five children aged 2 to 17 in the United States live in a home in which either they or their parents access the Internet; and

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WHEREAS, Youth who create Internet content and use social networking sites are more likely to be targets of cyber-bullying; and

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WHEREAS, Some parents use social media as a means to discipline, or coerce their child in order to correct behavior in their child that the parents believe is inappropriate; and

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WHEREAS, This type of online victimization is associated with emotional distress and other psychological problems, including depression; and

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WHEREAS, Cyber-bullying, especially by parents, can cause psychological harm, including depression, negatively impact academic performance, safety, and the well-being of the child and in some cases lead to extreme violent behavior, including murder and suicide; and

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WHEREAS, Sixty percent of mental health professionals who responded to the Survey of Internet Mental Health Issues report

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1 having treated at least one patient with a problematic Internet  
2 experience in the previous 5 years; many of these clients were  
3 under 18 years of age; therefore, be it

4       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
5 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
6 urge Congress, consistent with the First Amendment to the  
7 United States Constitution, to pass a law prohibiting parents  
8 from cyber-bullying their children by posting messages or  
9 images on social media sites on the Internet that intimidate,  
10 coerce, harass, or cause substantial emotional distress to  
11 their children; and be it further

12       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be  
13 forwarded to each member of the Illinois Congressional  
14 delegation.