



HR0014

LRB100 04175 RLC 14181 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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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, embarrass, 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

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

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

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