



HR0588

LRB099 12745 RLC 36538 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

20 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
6 NINETY-NINTH 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.