

From: jtoone@intoone.com
To: [S Legislation](#)
Subject: Social media bans are not the answer, oppose S-2968
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Dear Chairwoman Gu and members of the Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Tech Committee:

As the mom of a teenage son, I too have serious concerns about screen time and the issues that social media use can create. I experience this firsthand every day when I encourage my son to put down his phone and talk to us!

That is why I applaud Senator Louis DiPalma's intent in sponsoring S-2968, the Rhode Island Social Media Regulation Act. While I support the intent, I am concerned that an outright ban on allowing teens to use social media could be counterproductive. My son does connect with many valuable pieces of educational content on social media channels and has also connected with several user communities where he has developed relationships around shared topics of interest, like gaming.

I worry that a complete ban on allowing Rhode Island teens to use social media could limit some truly valuable uses of these platforms. Being teens, they will also find their way around any ban we adults try to put in place anyway.

I think a combination of engaged parenting along with social media skills training, teaching teens about how to appropriately use social media platforms while avoiding cyberbullying and other pitfalls, is a better way to approach this very challenging societal issue.

Sincerely,

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