



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 3077</b>		DATE: <b>3/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Children and Families</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. A.C. "HONEST ABE" DIENOFF</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-440-9000</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>STATE PUBLIC ADVOCACY</b>		TITLE: <b>STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 1535</b>			
CITY: <b>O'FALLON</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63366</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>BYRON KEELIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-402-0655</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>FREEDOM PRINCIPLE</b>		TITLE: <b>PRESIDENT</b>
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 2</b>		
CITY: <b>BALLWIN</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>63022</b>
EMAIL: <b>freedomprinciplemo@protonmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/2/2026 5:51 AM</b>

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We support HB 3077, which requires schools to provide curriculum about responsible social media use. Today's students are growing up in a digital world where social media profoundly influences their mental health, relationships, and safety. This bill is necessary to equip young people with essential skills to critically evaluate online content, recognize and prevent cyberbullying, and protect their digital privacy. By teaching students about misinformation, safe behaviors, and the long-term consequences of their actions online, we are empowering them to make sound decisions and become responsible digital citizens. Providing resources for educators and families also encourages a community-wide approach to healthy technology use. HB 3077 is a proactive step toward safeguarding the well-being and future success of Missouri's children.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CARA GERDIMAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-348-6886</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>KID's HARBOR</b>		TITLE: <b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>5717 CHAPEL DRIVE</b>			
CITY: <b>OSAGE BEACH</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65065</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JESSICA SEITZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-415-6228</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI NETWORK AGAINST CHILD ABUSE</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>520 DIX RD, SUITE C</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>PRECIOUS JONES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2026 5:43 AM</b>	
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Whewww where do I start! THIS BILL I thank you for putting this bill on the table! Social media has created a platform that has played a huge role of violence for our youth along with unreal reality. though some restrictions claim you have to be 18 to possess an account many of this apps only have a extra button to click and say you agree you are 18. Because many adults ignore their younger children having social media a lot of families arent having the talks with their children about how to use social media safely. I believe this bill will not only teach teach but also encourage parents and adults to pay more attention to thier children usage on social media. This good legislation its a need and it will help keep our youth safe. This should be passed asap!



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>RICHARD WISKUS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/1/2026 11:26 PM</b>	

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**Testimony in Support of Missouri HB 3077 – Schmidt – Curriculum on Using Social Media**

As an educator at a community college, I support HB 3077 because it addresses a critical and growing need among today’s learners: the ability to navigate social media responsibly, safely, and with digital literacy skills that match the realities of modern life. Students arrive in our classrooms deeply immersed in online platforms, yet many lack the foundational understanding needed to evaluate information, protect their privacy, and engage constructively in digital spaces.

A curriculum focused on social media use would strengthen students’ ability to:

- **\*\*Identify credible information\*\*** and recognize misinformation, a skill essential for academic success and informed citizenship.
- **\*\*Protect their digital footprint\*\***, including understanding privacy settings, data collection, and long-term consequences of online behavior.
- **\*\*Communicate professionally online\*\***, an expectation in nearly every career field, from healthcare to business to the trades.
- **\*\*Recognize online risks\*\***, including scams, predatory behavior, and cyberbullying, and know how to respond appropriately.

At the community college level, we see firsthand how gaps in digital literacy can limit students’ academic progress, employment opportunities, and personal safety. HB 3077 provides an opportunity to build these skills earlier, giving students a stronger foundation before they reach higher education or the workforce.

By supporting this bill, Missouri invests in students’ ability to participate thoughtfully and safely in an increasingly digital world. This curriculum would not only enhance academic readiness but also promote responsible citizenship and long-term personal well-being.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>STEPHANIE EMBRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/2/2026 11:51 AM</b>	
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**HB 3077 mandates that every school district develop and annually teach a unit on responsible social media use in grades six through twelve beginning in the 2027–28 school year.**

**While digital literacy and online safety are important objectives, this bill raises three practical and structural concerns.**

**First, it imposes a new annual curriculum mandate without funding, staffing guidance, or time allocation. Missouri districts are already subject to increasing curricular mandates across multiple subject areas. Absent dedicated funding or flexibility provisions, HB 3077 adds to instructional crowding and administrative burden.**

**Second, the bill requires submission of locally developed curriculum to DESE and permits adoption of third-party content approved or recognized by the department. This structure may incrementally expand state-level curriculum influence in an area traditionally governed by local school boards, raising local-control concerns.**

**Third, the bill directs instruction on topics such as misinformation, behavioral influence, and mental health impacts of social media without establishing viewpoint neutrality standards or clear content guardrails. In politically sensitive areas involving speech, media literacy, and behavioral influence, poorly defined implementation can invite First Amendment and parental-rights challenges if instruction is perceived as ideological rather than informational.**

**Legislative Notice: The General Assembly is placed on notice that HB 3077’s statewide annual curriculum mandate on social media use, absent funding, viewpoint-neutral standards, or parental opt-out safeguards, creates foreseeable local-control and First Amendment implementation challenges if instructional content is perceived as ideological or exceeds informational digital safety education.**

**Footnotes**

**West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette, 319 U.S. 624 (1943) (government may not compel affirmation of beliefs); Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District, 393 U.S. 503 (1969) (students retain constitutional speech protections in schools); Board of Education v. Pico, 457 U.S. 853 (1982) (school authorities may not exercise discretion in a narrowly partisan or political manner).**

**Pierce v. Society of Sisters, 268 U.S. 510 (1925) (liberty of parents to direct upbringing and education of children); Meyer v. Nebraska, 262 U.S. 390 (1923) (parental liberty interest protected under Due Process**

**Clause).**

**Mo. Const. art. IX, § 1(a) (General Assembly to establish and maintain free public schools, traditionally implemented through locally governed school districts under Missouri law).**