

Vote YES on Senate Bill 1719 - The KIDS Act

To protect the privacy and physical safety of kids and families in Illinois

What is the KIDS Act?

The Keep Internet Devices Safe (KIDS) Act protects the privacy and physical safety of Illinois citizens from the dangers posed - particularly those to children by Internet-connected devices' use of microphones that listen and collect our most intimate information.

Why is the KIDS Act needed?

(i) The FBI says so...

- In a July 2017 public service announcement, the FBI warned parents to be more cautious when utilizing Internet-connected devices in their homes because the collection of personal information from these devices' microphone raise concerns for kids' privacy, physical safety, and creates opportunities for child identity fraud.

(ii) We do not know when or why corporations are using our microphones to collect information.

- Consumer groups recently alleged that a popular doll, "My Friend Cayla", which has been banned in Germany, contains a Bluetooth microphone and speaker while the companion app provides the data processing *to facilitate the toy's ability to capture the private communications of children.*
- Just this February, it was reported that Google *never told users that their Nest Secure comes with a built-in microphone.*

(iii) Our family's conversations are not adequately protected.

- A company selling Internet-connected stuffed animals exposed a database *containing over 2 million voice recordings - many of them from children - to hackers who held the database for ransom, at least twice, demanding payment from the company in exchange for the data's safe return.*
- Researchers discovered that there were *more than 178 million exposed Internet-connected devices*, including over 2.5 million devices in Chicago alone.

How does the KIDS Act protect Illinois families?

(i) Transparency

- If a corporation is using an internet-connected device to listen for or collect information, then it must put in their terms when it will do so and for what purpose.
 - Transparency allows parents to protect their children by making an informed decision on whether or not they allow certain devices in their home.

(ii) Security

- If a corporation collects information from an internet-connected device's microphone, it must make sure that information is appropriately protected.
- Security gives Illinois families the necessary reassurance that when a corporation listens to our most intimate conversations, those recordings are safely stored.

Sponsors: Castro, Holmes, Bush, Crowe, and Peters

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