88R8067 MLH-D

By:  Patterson H.B. No. 2206

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a prohibition of certain social media platforms developed or provided by certain foreign entities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Chapter 120, Business & Commerce Code, is amended by adding Subchapter C-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER C-1. PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Sec. 120.121.  SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM DEVELOPED OR PROVIDED BY CERTAIN FOREIGN INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES PROHIBITED. Notwithstanding any other law, a social media platform may not operate in this state if the platform is developed or provided by:

(1)  a governmental entity of China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia;

(2)  a company or other entity that is:

(A)  headquartered in China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia;

(B)  directly or indirectly held or controlled by the government of China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia; or

(C)  owned by or the majority of stock or other ownership interest of which is held or controlled by individuals who are citizens of China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia;

(3)  a company or other entity that is owned by or the majority of stock or other ownership interest of which is held or controlled by a company or entity described by Subdivision (2); or

(4)  an individual who is a citizen of China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.