

By: Dean

H.B. No. 2790

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to access to social media and social networking websites on public school campuses.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 38, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 38.0232 to read as follows:

Sec. 38.0232. ACCESS TO SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING WEBSITES PROHIBITED; EXCEPTION. (a) A school district or open-enrollment charter school shall deploy technology to disable access to social media and social networking Internet websites on a digital device connected to an Internet service provided at a district or school campus, including on a digital device owned by an employee of the district or school while the device is connected to a campus Internet service.

(b) The technology deployed by a school district or open-enrollment charter school under Subsection (a) must provide for a method by which an employee of the school district or open-enrollment charter school may access an otherwise restricted social media or social networking Internet website for an appropriate administrative or educational purpose.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.