

Good afternoon Chair Marcotte (pronounced Mar-cot) and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development. Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of S.289. My name is Dr. John Mootz. I'll actually be sharing a short presentation with you today. I serve as the Senior Policy and Research Manager at Children and Screens: Institute of Digital Media and Child Development. We are an international, nonpartisan policy and research institute, committed to helping youth lead healthy lives in a digital world. In my role I analyze state and federal policy to determine if they align with empirical research, and if they will have the intended consequences. As age-appropriate design codes gained traction in the U.S., we saw a need to assess if this approach could be a solution to the problems families face because of digital technologies, like social media. These codes started in the UK. We assessed the impact of the UK design codes to gain insights into how they might play out in the U.S.. We published our findings in our UK Age-Appropriate Design Code Impact Assessment report. I'd like to walk you through a bit of what we found.



