

HJR232 INTRODUCED



1 WJ4R9E-1
2 By Representative Robbins
3 RFD: RULES
4 First Read: 23-May-23
5 2023 Regular Session



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HJR___ CREATING THE JOINT INTERIM STUDY COMMISSION ON
PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY.

WHEREAS, the pervasive use of pornography is creating
a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, pornography is contributing to the
hypersexualization of children and teens in our society; and

WHEREAS, due to advances in technology and the
universal availability of the Internet, young children are
more easily exposed to pornography than ever before, with
the average age of exposure now being only 11 to 12 years of
age; and

WHEREAS, pornography treats people as objects and
commodities for the viewer's use; and

WHEREAS, pornography normalizes violence and abuse,
often depicts rape and abuse as being harmless fun, and
increases the demand for sex trafficking, prostitution, and
child pornography; and

WHEREAS, pornography is a public health crisis
leading to a broad spectrum of individual and public health
impacts and societal harms; and

WHEREAS, this state has a compelling governmental



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26 interest to take action to prevent pornography exposure and
27 addiction of children and to educate individuals and
28 families concerning its very serious harms; now therefore,

29 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
30 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the joint
31 Interim Study Commission on Protecting Children from
32 Internet Pornography.

33 (a) The membership of the study commission shall
34 consist of all of the following:

35 (1) One member appointed by the chair of the House
36 Judiciary Committee.

37 (2) One member appointed by the chair of the Senate
38 Judiciary Committee.

39 (3) One member appointed by the National Center on
40 Sexual Exploitation.

41 (4) One member appointed by the Commissioner of the
42 Department of Mental Health.

43 (5) One member appointed by the Office of the
44 Attorney General.

45 (6) One member of the House of Representatives,
46 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

47 (7) One member of the House of Representatives,
48 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
49 Representatives.



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50 (8) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
51 President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

52 (9) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
53 Minority Leader of the Senate.

54 (10) One member appointed by the Alabama Cable and
55 Broadband Association.

56 (11) Any additional member who may be appointed by
57 majority vote of the study commission membership.

58 (b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their
59 appointments to assure the study commission membership is
60 inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic,
61 urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state.

62 (c) The appointee of the Speaker of the House of
63 Representatives shall call the first meeting of the study
64 commission, at which meeting the members shall elect a chair
65 and a vice chair from among the membership. The study
66 commission may then meet as necessary to conduct business.

67 (d) (1) The legislative members of the study
68 commission shall be entitled to their legislative
69 compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day
70 they attend a meeting of the study commission pursuant to
71 Section 49 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022.

72 (2) The nonlegislative members of the study
73 commission shall serve without compensation but may be
74 reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of



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75 the study commission pursuant to the policies of their
76 respective appointing authority.

77 (e) The Legislative Services Agency, the Clerk of the
78 House of Representatives, and the Secretary of the Senate
79 shall provide administrative and other assistance for the
80 work of the study commission as necessary.

81 (f) The study commission shall draft a proposal, in
82 the form of proposed legislation, to protect children
83 accessing the Internet, including preventing children from
84 accessing Internet pornography, safeguarding children using
85 social media, addressing mental health issues arising from
86 various online activities, and addressing various issues
87 related to cybersecurity and civil liberties.

88 (g) Not later than the third legislative day of the
89 2024 Regular Session, the study commission shall present its
90 findings in the form of proposed legislation. The study
91 commission shall stand dissolved and discharged of any
92 future duties and liabilities upon presenting its findings.

93 (h) Each appointing authority named herein shall be
94 presented a copy of this resolution upon its adoption.