

No 79

SENATE

ORDINARY SESSION OF 2025–2026

31 March 2026

PROPOSAL FOR A LAW

to **protect minors** from *the risks arising*
from *the use of social networks*

(expedited procedure)

*The Senate has amended, at first reading, the proposal for a law, adopted by the
National Assembly at first reading,
following the use of the expedited procedure, the wording of which is as
follows:*

See:

National Assembly (17th parliamentary term): **2107**, **2341** and T.A. **217**.

Senate: **304**, **468** and **469** (2025-2026).

Article 1

I. – Law No 2004-575 of 21 June 2004 on confidence in the digital economy is amended as follows:

(1) After Section 3 of Chapter II of Title I, a Section 3 *bis* is inserted as follows:

‘Section 3 bis

‘*Protection of minors online*

‘Article 6-9. – I. – A minor under the age of fifteen shall be prohibited from accessing a service provided by an online platform incorporating the functionalities of an online social networking service where, owing to the content disseminated or the recommendation systems used, it is likely to be harmful to his or her physical, mental or moral development and is included on a list established by order of the Minister responsible for digital matters, adopted after consulting the Audiovisual and Digital Communication Regulatory Authority.

‘I *bis* (new). – A minor under the age of fifteen may not access a service provided by an online platform incorporating the functionalities of an online social networking service that is not included on the list referred to in I unless he or she can demonstrate the express prior consent of at least one of his or her legal guardians. That consent shall specify the conditions and limits of the minor’s access to the service, in particular the nature of the accessible content, the maximum daily duration and the hours of use. It may be withdrawn at any time.

‘I *ter* (new). – Services which, as notified by the Audiovisual and Digital Communication Regulatory Authority, substantially reproduce the content or recommendation systems of one of the services included on that list shall be treated as equivalent to the services included on the list referred to in I.

II. – This Article shall not apply to online encyclopaedias, educational or scientific directories, or platforms for the development and sharing of free software.

III. – The Audiovisual and Digital Communication Regulatory Authority, after consulting the National Commission on Informatics and Liberties with regard to age verification systems, shall ensure compliance with this Article under the conditions laid down in Chapter IV of Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a single

market for digital services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act) and in Articles 9-1 and 9-2 of this Law.

It shall report any suspicion of a breach of the prohibition provided for in this Article by online platforms providing an online social networking service established in other Member States of the European Union to the authorities competent to enforce Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 referred to above. ’;

(2) After the word: ‘Law’, the end of the first paragraph of Article 57(I) is replaced by the following: ‘No of to protect minors from the risks arising from the use of social networks. ’

II. – This Article shall enter into force on 1 September 2026. For accounts providing access to online social networking services created before that date, it shall apply upon expiry of a period of four months from that date.

Article 1 bis *(deleted)*

Article 2

I. – In point 6 of Article 131-35-1(II) of the Criminal Code, after the reference: ‘223-13,’ the reference ‘223-14,’ is inserted.

II. – In the first paragraph of Article 6(IV)(A) of Law No 2004-575 of 21 June 2004 on confidence in the digital economy, after the reference ‘223-13,’ the reference ‘223-14,’ is inserted.

Article 3

(deleted in identical terms)

Article 3 bis A

(deleted)

Article 3 bis BA

(new Article deleted, not transmitted by the Senate)

Article 3 bis B

(deleted)

Articles 4 and 5

(deleted in identical terms)

Article 6

I. – The Education Code is amended as follows:

(1) A *(new)* Article L. 401-1 is supplemented by a paragraph worded as follows:

‘The school or establishment plan shall include a section on the use of digital technologies within the school or establishment as well as actions carried out with pupils, staff and parents to raise awareness of the harmful effects of unregulated exposure to screens and the addictive nature of social networks, in particular in the light of public health considerations. ’;

(1) Article L. 511-5 is amended as follows:

(a) The first paragraph is amended as follows:

– the words: ‘and lower secondary schools’ are replaced by the words: ‘, lower secondary schools and upper secondary schools’;

– at the end, the words ‘, except in circumstances, in particular for educational uses, and in places where the internal rules expressly authorise it’ are deleted;

– two sentences are added as follows: ‘The arrangements for implementing this prohibition and the exceptions thereto shall be determined by the internal rules in accordance with the school or establishment plan. In upper secondary schools providing higher education courses, the internal rules may lay down specific provisions for students. ’;

c) The second paragraph is deleted.

d) *(deleted)*

(2) *(new)* The sixth line of the table in the second paragraph of Article L. 565-1 is worded as follows:

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L. 511-5	Resulting from Law No	of
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II. – *(unchanged)*

Article 7

(deleted in identical terms)

Adopted in public sitting in Paris on 31 March 2026.

The President, Signed: Gérard

LARCHER