BILL SUMMARY

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: HB3914
Version: INT
Request Number: 9159
Author: Caldwell (C.)
Date: 3/14/2024
Impact: OAG: \$275,000
DPS: Unknown

Research Analysis

HB 3914, as introduced, places restrictions on social media usage. Social media companies may not allow minors under 16 to use social media and must require parental consent for minors 16 or older. Companies who violate this regulation are subject to a \$2,500 fine per violation plus court costs, attorney fees, and damages. The Attorney General is also authorized to take legal action. Additionally, commercial entities are prohibited from retaining user information once the user is granted access to the social media platform.

Prepared By: Autumn Mathews

Fiscal Analysis

This measure would restrict minors under the age of 16 from accessing certain social media platforms. HB3914 allows the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to initiate enforcement measures on social media companies found to be in violation of this act. Officials with the OAG anticipate needing to hire an additional attorney and administrative employee to implement the provisions of the bill at a total cost of \$275,000, and would seek additional funding to defray these costs. It is possible that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) would incur costs related to the digital identification verification provisions of this measure, however House staff is awaiting response from DPS officials regarding potential fiscal impact to the agency.

Prepared By: Robert Flipping IV, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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