



April 1, 2024

The Honorable Matt D. Klein
Minnesota State Senate
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2105
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: House Commerce Committee Omnibus - Prohibiting Social Media Manipulation Act Language

Dear Chairman Klein,

I write today on behalf of LinkedIn to express our concerns with the language from HF 4400 – Prohibiting Social Media Manipulation Act – found in the House Commerce Committee’s omnibus bill. LinkedIn is the world’s largest professional network with more than 1 billion members in more than 200 countries and territories worldwide. If enacted, this language would have a negative impact on the 2.5 million users in Minnesota, regardless of their age.

First, as a general matter, the language in the bill is likely overly broad and vague to a degree that may limit the ability of the bill to achieve its goals, and, in its current form, the bill likely would limit speech in an unconstitutional manner.

Second, with respect to LinkedIn, the bill creates artificial, daily limits on engagement that would prevent new members on LinkedIn’s platform from doing what they signed up to do – find a job and grow their professional knowledge and expertise. This language would also impede employers from finding potential new employees, stifling the growth of the workforce. Furthermore, the requirement for default privacy settings would limit the ability of new LinkedIn members to find recruiters and for recruiters to find new members, as well as limit the ability for Minnesota workers to grow their professional networks and knowledge. This would limit economic opportunities for Minnesotans.

LinkedIn has worked with lawmakers in states across the country to find workable solutions to solving the harms created or exacerbated by social media. In some cases, those bills have applied to users under the age of 16. In other cases, the language included a carveout for platforms that primarily provide professional information, career-related networking, or professional development opportunities, thus reducing the likelihood of the legislation inadvertently impacting professional activities and the pursuit of economic opportunities.



We met with Representative Zack Stephenson to express the aforementioned concerns and offered solutions that would maintain the integrity of his legislative objectives and give both new and existing workers in Minnesota the ability to enhance their career prospects and professional development opportunities. Unfortunately, we were unable to come to an agreement.

LinkedIn is proud to create economic opportunities for every member of the global workforce. Please consider us an eager partner and resource and thank you again for your leadership on this important issue.

Nick DePorter

Sr. Lead Manager, U.S. Public Policy and Economic Graph

LinkedIn