

ONLINE CHILD PROTECTION & ONLINE CONTENT REGULATION BILLS

As of February 6, 2008

This compilation tracks the bills introduced in the current Congress that seek to promote online child safety or that propose to regulate content on the Internet. Both the Center for Democracy & Technology and the Progress & Freedom Foundation monitor these bills and the broad topics of online child safety and online content regulation.

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BILLS IN THE 110th CONGRESS

(Lead Sponsors, Date Introduced)

[Sc], [Hc] = passed by committee in Senate or House; [S], [H] = passed by full Senate or House

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NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration of the Dep't of Commerce)
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STATE DEPARTMENT
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S. 49	Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Jan. 4, 2007
Sponsor:	Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska)
Short Title:	A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prevent the carriage of child pornography by video service providers, to protect children from online predators, and to restrict the sale or purchase of children's personal information in interstate commerce.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require warning labels on sexually explicit content• Limit access to social networking sites at schools and libraries that receive federal funds ("Deleting Online Predators Act," or "DOPA")• Limit sale of mailings lists containing children's addresses
Status and Related Bills:	S. 49 has effectively been superseded by S. 1965 , and thus is unlikely to move further in the Senate. The "DOPA" provisions in S. 49 also appear in H.R. 1120 . Click here for current status of S. 49 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act - Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to issue regulations requiring video services to prevent child pornography.• Amends the Crime Control Act of 1990 to triple the fines on providers of electronic communication services or remote computing services who knowingly and willfully fail to report child pornography. Requires warning labels for websites depicting sexually explicit material.• Deleting Online Predators Act of 2007 - Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require schools and libraries that receive universal service support to enforce a policy that: (1) prohibits access to a commercial social networking website or chat room unless used for an educational purpose with adult supervision; and (2) protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors.• Directs the FCC to issue a consumer alert regarding use of the Internet by child predators and establish a website resource.• Children's Listbroker Privacy Act - Makes it unlawful: (1) to sell personal information about an individual the seller knows to be a child (under age 16); (2) to purchase personal information about an individual identified by the seller as a child for the purpose of marketing to that child; or (3) for a purchaser who has provided a certification limiting the use of such information to engage in any practice that violates the certification terms.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; Children's Privacy ; Content / Website Labeling ; Criminal Law ; Education ; Social Networking ; FCC ; FTC ; NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/15/07 PFF: " Is MySpace the Government's Space? " PFF <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 2.16, June 2006, " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

S. 431	Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act of 2007 (or the KIDS Act of 2007) Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Jan. 30, 2007
Sponsors:	Sen. Schumer (D-NY), McCain (R-Ariz.)
Short Title:	A bill to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires that sex offenders register their e-mail addresses and other "Internet identifiers" for inclusion in the National Sex Offender Registry• Permits the release of the e-mails addresses and Internet identifiers to social networking sites for the purpose of screening sex offenders out of the sites• Criminalizes the misrepresentation of age in connection with the online solicitation of a minor
Status and Related Bills:	S. 431 as introduced is identical to H.R. 719 as originally introduced. S. 431 was passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee on Dec. 13, 2007. Click here for current status of S. 431 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act of 2007 or the KIDS Act of 2007 - Amends the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act to require a convicted sex offender to: (1) provide for inclusion in the National Sex Offender Registry any electronic mail address, instant message address, or other similar identifier used to communicate over the Internet; and (2) keep such information current.• Requires jurisdictions that maintain information about sex offenders to exempt from public disclosure any electronic mail address, instant message address, or other similar Internet identifier used by a sex offender.• Requires the Attorney General to maintain a system to allow commercial social networking websites to compare their databases of users to the Internet identifiers of persons in the National Sex Offender Registry. Exempts such websites from civil liability if compliant with the requirements of this Act.• Amends the federal criminal code to impose a fine and/or prison term: (1) of up to 10 years for failure by any sex offender to provide information required by this Act; and (2) of up to 20 years for age misrepresentation with the intent to use the Internet to engage in criminal sexual conduct with a minor.
Topics:	Child Predation ; Criminal Law ; Social Networking ; DOJ ; NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08

S. 519	Securing Adolescents From Exploitation-Online Act of 2007 (or the SAFE Act of 2007) Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Feb. 7, 2007
Sponsors:	McCain (R-Ariz.), Sen. Schumer (D-NY), Sen. Kyl (R-Ariz.)
Short Title:	A bill to modernize and expand the reporting requirements relating to child pornography, to expand cooperation in combating child pornography, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expands ISP reporting requirements relating to violations of child sexual exploitation and pornography laws • Requires service providers to preserve images of child pornography for evidentiary purposes. • Offers ISPs and the NCMEC immunity from civil claims or criminal charges for complying with the Act's requirements • Expands criminal penalties for use of the Internet to violate child pornography or sexual exploitation laws • Provides grants and demands further study related to investigations and prosecutions of child sexual exploitation crimes
Status and Related Bills:	S. 519 is identical to H.R. 876 . H.R. 3791 is identical to Sections 1 and 2 of S. 519. Click here for current status of S. 519 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amends the federal criminal code to expand the reporting requirements of electronic communication and remote computing service providers with respect to violations of child sexual exploitation and pornography laws. Requires such service providers, in reporting violations of such laws to the CyberTipline of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to provide: (1) information on the Internet identity of a suspected sex offender, including the electronic mail address, website address, uniform resource locator, or other identifying information; (2) the time child pornography was uploaded or discovered; (3) geographic location information for the offender; and (4) images of such child pornography. Requires the Center to forward each report which it receives from a service provider to a designated law enforcement agency. • Requires service providers to preserve images of child pornography for evidentiary purposes. • Grants service providers and the Center immunity from civil claims or criminal charges for complying the requirements of this Act, except for certain intentional or reckless misconduct. • Requires the U.S. Trade Representative, the Attorney General, and other relevant federal officials to encourage foreign governments to combat child sexual exploitation and pornography. • Authorizes appropriations for grants to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. • Authorizes courts to order monitoring of Internet use by a convicted sex offender as a condition for such offender's supervised release. • Imposes enhanced criminal penalties for use of the Internet to violate child pornography or sexual exploitation laws. • Requires the Attorney General to make publicly available reports on investigations and prosecutions of child sexual exploitation crimes.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; Criminal Law ; DOJ ; NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08

S. 568	Truth in Video Game Rating Act Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Feb. 13, 2007
Sponsor:	Sen. Brownback (R-Kan.)
Short Title:	A bill to prohibit deceptive conduct in the rating of video and computer games, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires game ratings to be based on the viewing of all content within the game• Makes it illegal for a game developer to embed hidden content within a game that is submitted for rating
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of S. 568 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prohibits any rating organization from assigning a content rating to any video or computer game unless it has reviewed its entire playable content. Prohibits any producer, seller, or distributor of such games from withholding or hiding any such content from a rating organization.• Requires any person submitting to a rating organization a video or computer game with hidden content to accompany it with the codes or methods necessary to access such hidden content. Prohibits a rating organization from providing a content rating that grossly mischaracterizes the game content.• Makes a violation of a prohibition of this Act an unfair or deceptive act or practice under specified provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act and requires the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to enforce this Act.
Topics:	Ratings ; Video Games ; Violence ; FTC
Analysis:	PFF: " Fact and Fiction in the Debate Over Video Game Regulation ," PFF <i>Progress on Point</i> 13.7, March 2006, " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

S. 602	Child Safe Viewing Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Feb. 15, 2007
Sponsor:	Sen. Pryor (D-Ark.)
Short Title:	A bill to develop the next generation of parental control technology.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires FCC to examine the effectiveness of parental controls across a wide variety of distribution platforms, including wired, wireless, and Internet platforms. [Note: The amended version of the bill that passed out of the Senate Commerce Committee only required that the FCC conduct a “notice of inquiry,” not a formal rulemaking, on the subject].• FCC would consider measures “to encourage or require” the use of “advanced blocking technologies” that operate independent of existing ratings systems. [Note: The amended version of the bill that passed out of the Senate Commerce Committee only required that the FCC “consider”—not “encourage or require”—such advanced blocking controls as part of informal study of the marketplace].
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of S. 602 from the Library of Congress. The Senate Commerce Committee passed a slightly modified version of S. 602 on August 2, 2007.
CRS Summary:	Requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to initiate a proceeding to consider measures to encourage or require the use of technologies that can improve or enhance the ability of a parent to protect his or her child from any indecent or objectionable video or audio programming, as determined by the parent, compatible with various communications devices or platforms.
Topics:	Ratings ; Parental Controls ; FCC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 PFF: “Convergence-Era Content Regulation? S. 602, The Child Safe Viewing Act of 2007,” <i>Progress on Point</i> 14.17, August 1, 2007, “Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda,” <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

S. 1086	Cyber Safety for Kids Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Apr. 11, 2007
Sponsors:	Sen. Baucus (D-Mont.) & Sen. Pryor (D-Ark.)
Short Title:	A bill to provide stronger protections to parents regarding their children's access to sexually explicit material over the Internet.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mandates website labeling for material that is "harmful to minors"• Requires that NTIA develop tags for such content• Requires age verification mechanisms be used to block access to such material• Requires tags to be registered with ICANN
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of S. 1086 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prohibits an operator of a commercial website from knowingly placing material that is harmful to minors on the website unless: (1) any page that is initially viewable does not include any such material; (2) access to the material is restricted to a specific set of individuals through an age verification requirement; and (3) the website's source code contains the content description tag assigned to the website by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).• Requires the NTIA to develop a common content description tag that: (1) will warn and inform consumers regarding the presence of material that is harmful to minors; (2) will allow consumers to block or filter website access; and (3) is technologically capable of being embedded in the website's source code.• Requires a website operator, when registering or re-registering a website, to provide to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) certain information, including the content description tag.
Topics:	Age Verification ; Content / Website Labeling ; Domain Names ; NTIA
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 PFF: " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

S. 1738	Combating Child Exploitation Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: June 28, 2007
Sponsors:	Sen. Biden (D-Del.) & Sen. Boxer (D-Cal.)
Short Title:	A bill to establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute predators.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires better federal-state-local coordination on child exploitation cases • Expands funding for various government agencies and programs that carry out these provisions • Amends the federal criminal code to authorize wiretapping in state child exploitation investigations
Status and Related Bills:	S. 1738 is substantially similar to H.R. 3845 , which has passed in the House of Representatives. Click here for current status of S. 1738 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires the Attorney General to appoint a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of Deputy Attorney General to coordinate Department of Justice policies and strategies for the prevention and investigation of child exploitation cases. • Establishes within the Office of Justice Programs an Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC Task Force), consisting of state and local task forces (one task force for each state) to address online enticement of children, child exploitation, and child obscenity and pornography cases. • Requires the Attorney General to establish a National Internet Crimes Against Children Data Network Center to assist the ICAC Task Force program and federal, state, local, and tribal agencies investigating and prosecuting child exploitation. • Authorizes the Attorney General to award grants to state and local ICAC task forces to combat Internet crimes against children. • Requires the Attorney General to establish additional computer forensic capacity to address backlogs, including for child exploitation investigations. • Amends the federal criminal code to authorize wiretapping in state child exploitation investigations. • Authorizes funding for additional agents and personnel for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the U.S. Postal Service.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; Criminal Law ; DOJ , FBI , NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 PFF: " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

S. 1780	Protecting Children from Indecent Programming Act Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: July 12, 2007
Sponsors:	Sen. Rockefeller (D-W.Va.), Sen. Stevens (R-Alaska), Sen. Pryor (D-Ark.) & Sen. Inouye (D-Ha.)
Short Title:	A bill to require the FCC, in enforcing its regulations concerning the broadcast of indecent programming, to maintain a policy that a single word or image may be considered indecent.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarifies that the utterance of a single "fleeting explicative" on broadcast television or radio could be subjected to FCC fines / penalties
Status and Related Bills:	S. 1780 is identical to H.R. 3559 . S. 1780 was passed by the Senate Commerce Committee. Click here for current status of S. 1780 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the Public Telecommunications Act of 1992 to require the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in applying regulations prohibiting the broadcasting of indecent programming, to maintain a policy that a single word or image may constitute indecent programming.
Topics:	Indecency , FCC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 PFF: " Senate Plan to Roll Back the Clock on Broadcast Regulation ," <i>PFF Blog</i> , 7/11/07, " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

S. 1829	Protect our Children First Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: July 19, 2007
Sponsors:	Sen. Leahy (D-Vt.), Sen. Hatch (R-Ut.), Sen. Lincoln (D-Ark.) & Sen. Shelby (R-Ala.)
Short Title:	A bill to reauthorize programs under the Missing Children's Assistance Act.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reauthorizes the federal financial support for the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)• Expand the responsibilities of NCMEC in the areas of child exploitation and child pornography
Status and Related Bills:	S. 1829 substantially overlaps with H.R. 2517 . S. 1829 was passed by the Senate Judicial Committee in December 2007. Click here for current status of S. 1829 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amends the Missing Children's Assistance Act to: (1) revise and expand the required uses for the annual grant made to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and (2) reauthorize the missing children's assistance and the NCMEC grant programs through FY2013.• Amends the Crime Control Act of 1990 to allow Inspector General staff members to assist the NCMEC in conducting reviews of inactive missing children case files.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08

S. 2344	Internet Safety Education Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Nov. 13, 2007
Sponsors:	Sen. Menéndez (D-N.J.)
Short Title:	A bill to create a competitive grant program to provide for age-appropriate Internet education for children.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorizes \$10 million for competitive grants to create Internet safety education programs, aimed at both children and parents• Directs the Attorney General to issue regulations defining what organizations would be eligible to apply for the grants
Status and Related Bills:	S. 2344 was passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee on December 13, 2007. Click here for current status of S. 2344 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	A bill to create a competitive grant program to provide for age-appropriate Internet education for children.
Topics:	Education ; DOJ
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08, " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

H.R. 275	Global Online Freedom Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Jan. 5, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Smith (R-N.J.) & Rep. Wolf (D-Va.)
Short Title:	To promote freedom of expression on the Internet, to protect United States businesses from coercion to participate in repression by authoritarian foreign governments, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Established a new Office of Global Internet Freedom in the Department of State to promote free flow of information abroad• Regulates and penalizes American companies that do business with repressive overseas regimes
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 275 was referred to both the House Foreign Affairs and Energy & Commerce Committees. In October 2007, the Foreign Affairs Committee passed the bill. It has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. Click here for current status of H.R. 275 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Declares that it is U.S. policy to: (1) promote the freedom to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media; (2) use all appropriate instruments of U.S. influence to support the free flow of information; and (3) deter U.S. businesses from cooperating with Internet-restricting countries in effecting online censorship.• Expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) the President should seek international agreements to protect Internet freedom; and (2) some U.S. businesses, in assisting foreign governments to restrict online access to U.S.-supported websites and government reports, are working contrary to U.S. foreign policy interests.• Amends the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to require assessments of electronic information freedom in each foreign country.• Establishes in the Department of State the Office of Global Internet Freedom (OGIF).• Directs the President to annually designate Internet-restricting countries. Prohibits U.S. businesses from locating, within such countries, any electronic communication that contains any personally identifiable information.• Prohibits U.S. businesses that collect or obtain personally identifiable information through the Internet from providing that information to Internet-restricting countries, except for legitimate foreign law enforcement purposes.• Requires U.S. businesses to report certain Internet censorship information involving Internet-restricting countries to the OGIF.• Prohibits U.S. businesses that maintain Internet content hosting services from jamming of U.S.-supported websites or U.S.-supported content in Internet-restricting countries.• Requires a feasibility study regarding the development of controls on exporting items facilitating Internet freedom reductions to Internet-restricting countries.
Topics:	International Issues ; State Department

H.R. 668	Web Video Violence Act Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Jan. 24, 2007
Sponsor:	Rep. Diaz-Balart (R-Fla.)
Short Title:	To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to require States who wish to receive funds under the Act to increase the penalty applied to a defendant convicted of a violent crime who placed a video of the commission of that crime on the Internet.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creates new criminal penalties for the placement or distribution of videos of crimes on the Internet
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of H.R. 668 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to reduce funding under such Act for states which fail to certify that their laws or official policies require increased penalties for a criminal defendant convicted of a violent crime who places a video or image of the commission of such crime on the Internet.
Topics:	Criminal Law

H.R. 719	<p>Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act of 2007 (or the KIDS Act of 2007)</p> <p>Bill Text: HTML, PDF Introduced: Jan. 30, 2007</p>
Sponsors:	Rep. Pomeroy (D-N.D.), Rep. Gillmor (R-Ohio), Rep. Weiner (D-N.Y.), Rep. Chabot (R-Ohio) & Rep. Lampson (D-Tex.)
Short Title:	A bill to authorize additional appropriations for supervision of Internet access by sex offenders convicted under Federal law, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allows restrictions on Internet-use to be imposed on sex offenders who pose risks to children online, including restrictions requiring such offenders to use technological tools to monitor or limit their Internet access; • requires the U.S. Sentencing Commission to amend sentencing guidelines to account for the use of the Internet as part of crimes against children; and • creates a new crime of financially facilitating access to child pornography.
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 719 as introduced was identical to S. 431 . H.R. 719 was passed in a substantially amended form by the House of Representatives on November 14, 2007. Click here for current status of H.R. 719 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<p>Summary of H.R. 719 as amended on Nov. 14, 2007:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes additional appropriations for FY2008-FY2013 to: (1) evaluate and purchase Internet filtering and monitoring programs and devices; (2) train probation officers in the use of such programs and devices and in the supervision of sex offenders; and (3) hire probation officers and other personnel as required to supervise convicted sex offenders effectively. • Amends the federal criminal code to: (1) include as discretionary conditions for the probation and supervised release of a convicted sex offender restricted access to the Internet and monitoring of computers used by such offender by a probation officer; (2) impose a fine and/or prison term of up to 20 years for conducting, or attempting or conspiring to conduct, a financial transaction to facilitate access to, or possession of, child pornography; and (3) include as monetary instruments for money laundering purposes electronic or digital currencies or stored value cards. • Directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to review and, if appropriate, amend its sentencing guidelines for sex offenses involving children where the crimes are committed or facilitated by use of the Internet and the offender's age is misrepresented on the Internet or the offender's status as a sex offender is not revealed. • Amends the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 to revise the minimum standards, under a pilot program, for electronic monitoring of sex offenders to eliminate requirements that the tracking device: (1) contain cellular technology in a single unit; and (2) provide two- and three-way voice communication.
Topics:	Child Predation ; Criminal Law ; Social Networking
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08

H.R. 837	Internet Stopping Adults Facilitating the Exploitation of Today's Youth Act of 2007 (or the SAFETY Act of 2007) Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Feb. 6, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Smith (R-Tex.), Rep. Forbes (R-Va.), Rep. Gallegly (R-Cal.), Rep. Chabot (R-Ohio), Rep. Feeney (R-Fla.), Rep. Franks (R-Ariz.) & Rep. Pence (R-Ind.)
Short Title:	To amend title 18, United States Code, to protect youth from exploitation by adults using the Internet, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• creates new crimes prohibiting the facilitation of access to child pornography;• increases penalties for ISPs that fail to report child pornography;• allows the Attorney General to impose "data retention" requirements on ISPs; and• requires that web sites with sexual content must carry a warning label created by the Federal Trade Commission
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of H.R. 837 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amends the federal criminal code to prohibit: (1) financial transactions in interstate or foreign commerce that facilitate access to, or the possession of, child pornography; and (2) Internet content hosting providers or email service providers from facilitating access to, or the possession of, child pornography.• Amends the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 to: (1) increase monetary penalties for willful failure of electronic communication service providers to report child pornography; and (2) impose new penalties for negligent failure to report.• Requires the Attorney General to issue regulations governing the retention of certain records by Internet Service Providers.• Increases criminal penalties for the sexual exploitation of children and for activities involving the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography.• Requires commercial website operators to place warning marks prescribed by the Federal Trade Commission on web pages that contain sexually explicit materials.• Authorizes appropriations for FY2008-FY2012 for the Innocent Images National Initiative.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Criminal Law ; DOJ ; FTC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 PFF: " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

H.R. 876	<p>Securing Adolescents From Exploitation-Online Act of 2007 (or the SAFE Act of 2007)</p> <p>Bill Text: HTML, PDF Introduced: Feb. 7, 2007</p>
Sponsors:	Rep. Chabot (R-Ohio), Rep. Lampson (D-Tex.), Rep. Biggert (R-IL) & Rep. Cramer (D-Ala.)
Short Title:	To modernize and expand the reporting requirements relating to child pornography, to expand cooperation in combating child pornography, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expands ISP reporting requirements relating to violations of child sexual exploitation and pornography laws • Requires service providers to preserve images of child pornography for evidentiary purposes. • Offers ISPs and the NCMEC immunity from civil claims or criminal charges for complying with the Act's requirements • Expands criminal penalties for use of the Internet to violate child pornography or sexual exploitation laws • Provides grants and demands further study related to investigations and prosecutions of child sexual exploitation crimes
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 876 is identical to S. 519 . H.R. 3791 is identical to Sections 1 and 2 of H.R. 876. Click here for current status of H.R. 876 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amends the federal criminal code to expand the reporting requirements of electronic communication and remote computing service providers with respect to violations of child sexual exploitation and pornography laws. Requires such service providers, in reporting violations of such laws to the CyberTipline of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to provide: (1) information on the Internet identity of a suspected sex offender, including the electronic mail address, website address, uniform resource locator, or other identifying information; (2) the time child pornography was uploaded or discovered; (3) geographic location information for the offender; and (4) images of such child pornography. Requires the Center to forward each report which it receives from a service provider to a designated law enforcement agency. • Requires service providers to preserve images of child pornography for evidentiary purposes. • Grants service providers and the Center immunity from civil claims or criminal charges for complying the requirements of this Act, except for certain intentional or reckless misconduct. • Requires the U.S. Trade Representative, the Attorney General, and other relevant federal officials to encourage foreign governments to combat child sexual exploitation and pornography. • Authorizes appropriations for grants to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. • Authorizes courts to order monitoring of Internet use by a convicted sex offender as a condition for such offender's supervised release. • Imposes enhanced criminal penalties for use of the Internet to violate child pornography or sexual exploitation laws. • Requires the Attorney General to make publicly available reports on investigations and prosecutions of child sexual exploitation crimes.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; Criminal Law ; DOJ ; NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/15/07

H.R. 1008	Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007 (or the SAFER NET Act of 2007) Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Feb. 13, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Bean (D-IL) and many others
Short Title:	To improve public awareness in the United States regarding safe use of the Internet through the establishment of an Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness within the Federal Trade Commission.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires the FTC to establish a new division to coordinate online safety efforts• Would create a nationwide online safety awareness / education effort• Would provide financial assistance to state and local government entities seeking to promote online child safety
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 1008 has effectively been superseded by H.R. 3461 , which was also introduced by Rep. Bean. Click here for current status of H.R. 1008 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to establish an Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness to be headed by a Director.• Requires the FTC, acting through the Office, to carry out a nationwide program to increase public awareness and education regarding Internet safety, that utilizes existing resources and efforts of all levels of government and other appropriate entities and that includes: (1) evaluating and improving the efficiency of Internet safety efforts provided by such entities; (2) identifying and promoting best practices; (3) establishing and carrying out a national outreach and education campaign; (4) serving as the primary contact in the federal government and as a national clearinghouse for Internet safety information; (5) facilitating access to, and the exchange of, such information; (6) providing expert advice to the FTC; (7) providing technical, financial, and other appropriate assistance to such entities; and (8) providing assistance, including technical assistance and financial assistance under subsection (c), to States, units of local government, schools, police departments, non-profit organizations, and such other entities as the Office considers appropriate to promote Internet safety education and public awareness.
Topics:	Education ; FTC
Analysis:	PFF: " Rep. Bean's 'SAFER Net Act': An Education-Based Approach to Online Child Safety ," February 22, 2007.

H.R. 1120	Deleting Online Predators Act (DOPA) of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Feb. 16, 2007
Sponsor:	Rep. Kirk (R-IL) & many others
Short Title:	To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require recipients of universal service support for schools and libraries to protect minors from commercial social networking websites and chat rooms.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limits access to social networking websites for schools and libraries that receive federal funding via the FCC's "e-rate" program• Requires FTC to issue consumer alerts about dangers of Internet and social networking and create a new website on related issues
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 1120 is identical to a portion of S. 49 . Click here for current status of H.R. 1120 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require schools and libraries that receive universal service support to enforce a policy that: (1) prohibits access to a commercial social networking website or chat room unless used for an educational purpose with adult supervision; and (2) protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. Allows an administrator, supervisor, or other authorized person to disable such a technology protection measure during use by an adult, or by minors with adult supervision, to enable access for educational purposes.• Directs the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to: (1) issue a consumer alert regarding use of the Internet by child predators and the potential dangers to children because of such use, including the potential dangers of commercial social networking websites and chat rooms; and (2) establish a website resource of information for parents, teachers, school administrators, and others regarding potential dangers posed by the use of the Internet by children.
Topics:	Social Networking ; FCC ; FTC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 PFF: " Is MySpace the Government's Space? " PFF <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 2.16, June 2006, " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

H.R. 2517	<p>Protecting Our Children Comes First Act of 2007</p> <p>Bill Text: HTML, PDF Introduced: May 24, 2007</p>
Sponsors:	Rep. Lampson (D-Tex.), Rep. Biggert (R-IL), Rep. Chabot (R-Ohio) & Rep. Cramer (D-Ala.)
Short Title:	To amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act to authorize appropriations, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorizes the federal financial support for the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) • Expand the responsibilities of NCMEC in the areas of child exploitation and child pornography
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 2517 substantially overlaps with S. 1829 . H.R. 2517 was passed by the House of Representatives on December 5, 2007. Click here for current status of H.R. 2517 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the Missing Children's Assistance Act to reauthorize through FY2013, and revise requirements for uses of, the annual grant to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children by the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08

H.R. 2738	Family and Consumer Choice Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: June 15, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Lipinski (D-IL), Rep. Fortenberry (R-Neb.), Rep. Shuler (D-N.C.) & Rep. Aderholt (R-Ala.)
Short Title:	To empower parents to protect children from increasing depictions of indecent material on television.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Imposes on cable and other "multichannel video" providers a requirement that the provider offer to customers at least one of a number of different options to enable the customer to avoid receiving or paying for "indecent or profane" video content.
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of H.R. 2738 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to adopt rules to protect children from indecent video programming carried by a multichannel video programming distributor (MVPD). Gives MVPDs the option to either: (1) in accordance with FCC indecency and profanity policies and standards, not transmit indecent or profane material in the expanded basic tier between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. in the Eastern or Pacific time zones or between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. in the Central or Mountain times zones; (2) scramble or block any channel that a subscriber does not wish to receive; or (3) allow a subscriber to subscribe to a family tier of programming (defined as including all channels on the expanded basic tier, except those that carry programs rated TV-14 or TV-MA during those hours). Requires MVPDs that elect to scramble or block channels to issue credit in certain circumstances to a subscriber for any channel the subscriber elects to block. Requires MVPDs that elect to provide a family tier to allow a subscriber to obtain the family tier of programming for one or more of the subscriber's reception devices while simultaneously obtaining other tiers for other of the subscriber's reception devices.
Topics:	Indecency ; Parental Controls ; FCC
Analysis:	PFF: " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

H.R. 3144	Sex Offender Internet Prohibition Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: July 24, 2007
Sponsor:	Rep. McMorris Rodgers (R-Wash.)
Short Title:	To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for sex offenders who access social networks on the Internet, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expands mandatory minimum sentences for registered sex offenders who communicate with children online
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of H.R. 3144 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the federal criminal code to impose a mandatory minimum prison term of five years and a maximum term of 20 years on individuals required to register as sex offenders who knowingly access a website with the intent to communicate with a child under the age of 18 years who is unaware that such individual is a registered sex offender.
Topics:	Child Predation ; Criminal Law

H.R. 3148	Child Pornography Elimination Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: July 24, 2007
Sponsor:	Rep. Musgrave (R-Col.)
Short Title:	To eliminate child pornography.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increases mandatory minimum sentences for possession of child pornography• Expands definition of "illegal sexual conduct" under criminal law to include production of child pornography
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of H.R. 3148 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the federal criminal code to: (1) impose a mandatory minimum prison term of two years for possession of child pornography and increase to 15 years the maximum prison term for such crime; (2) increase fines for the intentional failure of Internet service providers to report online child pornography and to impose a new fine for negligent failure to report; (3) make it a crime to knowingly access with intent to view child pornography; (4) prohibit conspiracies to commit human trafficking crimes; (5) expand and make mandatory restitution for certain child sex offenses; (6) include production of child pornography within the definition of "illicit sexual conduct" for purposes of the crime of transporting minors with the intent to engage in criminal sexual activity; and (7) make the prohibition against sex trafficking of children applicable to prosecutions of child pornographers and repeat offenders.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; Criminal Law

H.R. 3461	Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007 (or SAFER-NET Act of 2007) Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Aug. 4, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Bean (D-IL) & many others
Short Title:	To establish a public awareness campaign regarding Internet safety.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires the FTC to establish a new division to coordinate online safety efforts• Would create a nationwide online safety awareness / education effort
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 3461 has effectively superseded H.R. 1008 , which was Rep. Bean's previous version of the bill. H.R. 3461 is also virtually identical to sections 101-103 of S. 1965 . H.R. 3461 was passed by the House of Representatives on Nov. 13, 2007. Click here for current status of H.R. 3461 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Requires the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to carry out a nationwide program to increase public awareness and education regarding Internet safety. Requires that the program use existing resources and efforts of all levels of government and other appropriate entities. Includes in the program activities relating to best practices, a national outreach and education campaign, and information access and exchange.
Topics:	Education ; FTC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 PFF: "Two Sensible, Education-Based Legislative Approaches to Online Child Safety," PFF Progress Snapshot 3.10 September 2007, "Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda," Progress Snapshot 4.4 , February 6, 2008.

H.R. 3559	Protecting Children from Indecent Programming Act Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Sep. 18, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Pickering (R-Miss.), Rep. Pitts (R-Penn.), Rep Matheson (D-Utah) & McIntyre (D-N.C.)
Short Title:	To require the FCC, in enforcing its regulations concerning the broadcast of indecent programming, to maintain a policy that a single word or image may be considered indecent.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarifies that the utterance of a single “fleeting explicative” on broadcast television or radio could be subjected to FCC fines / penalties
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 3559 is identical to S. 1780 , which has passed the Senate Commerce Committee. Click here for current status of H.R. 3559 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	To require the FCC, in enforcing its regulations concerning the broadcast of indecent programming, to maintain a policy that a single word or image may be considered indecent.
Topics:	Indecency , FCC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 CDT & PFF: Groups Urge Courts To Limit FCC's Authority to Regulate Speech PFF: “ Senate Plan to Roll Back the Clock on Broadcast Regulation ,” <i>PFF Blog</i> , 7/11/07, “ Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ,” <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

H.R. 3577	To direct the Attorney General to provide grants for Internet safety education programs. Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Sep. 18, 2007
Sponsor(s):	Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-Cal.) & many others
Short Title:	To direct the Attorney General to provide grants for Internet safety education programs.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Requires that the DOJ provide a grant to i-Safe, Inc., an Internet safety organization, to carry out Internet safety education programs.
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 3577 appears to have been superseded by H.R. 4134 , which was passed by the House of Representatives. Click here for current status of H.R. 3577 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	To direct the Attorney General to provide grants for Internet safety education programs.
Topics:	Education ; DOJ

H.R. 3676	Family Friendly Flights Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Sep. 26, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Shuler (D-N.C.) & many others
Short Title:	To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for a child safe viewing area within which covered air carriers shall not display violent in-flight programming.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires that airlines create a "child safe viewing area" in every airplane where movies rated PG-13, R, or NC-17 by the MPAA could not be viewed by children
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of H.R. 3676 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for a child safe viewing area within which covered air carriers shall not display violent in-flight programming.
Topics:	Criminal Law ; Ratings ; Violence
Analysis:	PFF: " Long-Range Censors " <i>City Journal</i> , October 3, 2007, " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

H.R. 3791	Securing Adolescents From Exploitation-Online Act of 2007 (or the SAFE Act of 2007) Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Oct. 10, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Lampson (D-Tex.) & Rep. Chabot (R-Ohio)
Short Title:	To modernize and expand the reporting requirements relating to child pornography, to expand cooperation in combating child pornography, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expands ISP reporting requirements relating to violations of child sexual exploitation and pornography laws• Requires service providers to preserve images of child pornography for evidentiary purposes.• Offers ISPs and the NCMEC immunity from civil claims or criminal charges for complying with the Act's requirements• Authorizes NCMEC to create a blacklist of images and/or sites and provide the list to ISPs for the purpose of blocking access to such images
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 3791 is identical to Sections 1 and 2 of H.R. 876 and S. 519 . H.R. 3791 was passed by the House of Representatives on Dec. 5, 2007. Click here for current status of H.R. 3791 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amends the federal criminal code to expand the reporting requirements of electronic communication and remote computing service providers (service providers) with respect to violations of child sexual exploitation and pornography laws. Requires such service providers, in reporting violations of such laws to the CyberTipline of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (Center) to provide: (1) information on the Internet identity of a suspected sex offender, including the electronic mail address, website address, uniform resource locator, or other identifying information; (2) the time child pornography was uploaded or discovered; (3) geographic location information for the offender; and (4) images of such child pornography. Requires the Center to forward each report which it receives from a service provider to a designated law enforcement agency.• Requires service providers to preserve images of child pornography for evidentiary purposes.• Authorizes the Center to provide images of child pornography reported to its CyberTipline to service providers to enable such providers to stop further transmissions of pornographic images.• Grants service providers and the Center immunity from civil claims or criminal charges for complying the requirements of this Act, except for certain intentional or reckless misconduct.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08

H.R. 3811	Intercept Child Predators Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Oct. 10, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Lampson (D-Tex.), Rep. Chabot (R-Ohio), Rep. Carney (D-Pa.) & Rep. Jackson-Lee (D-Tex.)
Short Title:	To amend title 18, United States Code, to expressly include State online sexual exploitation investigations in the list of those for which interception of communications is authorized.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amends the federal criminal code to add child sexual exploitation and child pornography to the crimes for which wiretaps may be authorized in state investigations.
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of H.R. 3811 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the federal criminal code to add child sexual exploitation and child pornography to the crimes for which interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications (wiretaps) may be authorized in state investigations.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; Criminal Law

H.R. 3845	Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats to Our Children Act of 2007 (or the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2007) Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Oct. 16, 2007
Sponsors:	Rep. Wasserman Schultz (D-Fla.) & many others
Short Title:	To establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute child predators.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires better federal-state-local coordination on child exploitation cases• Expands funding for various government agencies and programs that carry out these provisions• Amends the federal criminal code to authorize wiretapping in state child exploitation investigations
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 3845 is substantially similar to S. 1738 . H.R. 3845 passed the House of Representatives on November 14, 2007. Click here for current status of H.R. 3845 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires the Attorney General to appoint a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of Deputy Attorney General to coordinate Department of Justice (DOJ) policies and strategies for the prevention and investigation of child exploitation cases.• Establishes within the Office of Justice Programs in DOJ an Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC Task Force), consisting of state and local task forces (one task force for each state) to address online enticement of children, child exploitation, and child obscenity and pornography cases.• Requires the Attorney General to establish a National Internet Crimes Against Children Data Network Center to assist the ICAC Task Force program and federal, state, local, and tribal agencies investigating and prosecuting child exploitation.• Authorizes the Office of Justice Programs to award grants to state and local ICAC task forces to combat Internet crimes against children.• Requires the Attorney General to establish additional computer forensic capacity to address backlogs, including for child exploitation investigations.• Authorizes funding for additional agents and personnel for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Requires the Attorney General to report to Congress annually on resources used to investigate and prosecute child exploitation and child obscenity cases.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; Criminal Law ; DOJ , FBI , NCMEC
Analysis:	CDT: CDT Analysis of Child Protection Bills Pending in Congress , 2/6/08 PFF: " Congress, Content Regulation, and Child Protection: The Expanding Legislative Agenda ," <i>Progress Snapshot</i> 4.4, February 6, 2008.

H.R. 3899	Parents' Empowerment Act Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Oct. 10, 2007
Sponsor:	Rep. Hunter (R-Cal.)
Short Title:	To provide a civil action for a minor injured by exposure to an entertainment product containing material that is harmful to minors, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creates new civil penalties for the sale of entertainment products containing material that is deemed harmful to minors
Status and Related Bills:	Click here for current status of H.R. 3899 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorizes a minor, through a person acting on his or her behalf under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, to bring a civil action in U.S. district court for compensatory and punitive damages for the knowing sale or distribution in interstate or foreign commerce of an entertainment product containing material harmful to minors, if: (1) a reasonable person would expect a substantial number of minors to be exposed to the material; and (2) the minor as a result of such exposure is likely to suffer personal or emotional injury or injury to mental or moral welfare.• Makes it an affirmative defense to such an action that: (1) a parent or guardian of the minor owned or possessed the entertainment product containing the material to which the minor was exposed; and (2) an act of that parent or guardian was the proximate cause of the minor's exposure.
Topics:	Criminal Law

H.R. 4120	Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Nov. 11, 2007
Sponsor(s):	Rep. Boyda (D-Kan.) & Rep. Biggert (R-IL),
Short Title:	To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for more effective prosecution of cases involving child pornography, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amends the federal criminal code to expand the definitions of the crimes of child sexual exploitation and child pornography to include activities constituting such crimes that merely affect interstate or foreign commerce.
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 4120 passed the House of Representatives on November 14, 2007. Click here for current status of H.R. 4120 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the federal criminal code to expand the definitions of the crimes of child sexual exploitation and child pornography to include activities constituting such crimes that merely affect interstate or foreign commerce.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Child Predation ; Criminal Law ;

H.R. 4136	Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act of 2007 Bill Text: HTML , PDF Introduced: Nov. 9, 2007
Sponsor:	Rep. Carney (D-Pa.)
Short Title:	To amend title 18 of the United States Code to clarify the scope of the child pornography laws, and for other purposes.
Key Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expands definitions and criminal penalties for child pornography
Status and Related Bills:	H.R. 4136 was passed by the House of Representatives on November 15, 2007. Click here for current status of H.R. 4136 from the Library of Congress.
CRS Summary:	Amends the federal criminal code to: (1) include child pornography activities and the production of such pornography for importation into the United States as predicate crimes for money laundering prosecutions; and (2) define "possess" with respect to crimes of child sexual exploitation and child pornography to include accessing by computer visual depictions of child pornography with the intent to view.
Topics:	Child Pornography ; Criminal Law