

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 714

To require the Attorney General to study and report to Congress on means of controlling the flow of violent, sexually explicit, harassing, offensive, or otherwise unwanted material in interactive telecommunications systems.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 7 (legislative day, APRIL 5), 1995

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. KERREY, and Mr. KOHL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require the Attorney General to study and report to Congress on means of controlling the flow of violent, sexually explicit, harassing, offensive, or otherwise unwanted material in interactive telecommunications systems.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. STUDY ON MEANS OF RESTRICTING ACCESS TO**
4 **UNWANTED MATERIAL IN INTERACTIVE**
5 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.**

6 (a) STUDY AND REPORT.—Not later than 150 days
7 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney Gen-

1 eral shall complete a study and submit to the Committee
2 on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the
3 Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report con-
4 taining—

5 (1) an evaluation of whether current criminal
6 laws governing the distribution of obscenity over
7 computer networks and the creation and distribution
8 of child pornography by means of computers are
9 fully enforceable in interactive media;

10 (2) an assessment of the Federal, State, and
11 local law enforcement resources that are currently
12 available to enforce those laws;

13 (3) an evaluation of the technical means avail-
14 able to—

15 (A) enable parents to exercise control over
16 the information that their children receive and
17 enable other users to exercise control over the
18 commercial and noncommercial information
19 that they receive over interactive telecommuni-
20 cations systems so that they may avoid violent,
21 sexually explicit, harassing, offensive, or other-
22 wise unwanted material; and

23 (B) promote the free flow of information
24 consistent, with Constitutional values, in inter-
25 active media; and

1 (4) recommendations to encourage the develop-
2 ment and deployment of technical means, including
3 hardware and software, to enable parents to exercise
4 control over the information that their children re-
5 ceive and enable other users to exercise control over
6 the information that they receive over interactive
7 telecommunications systems so that they may avoid
8 violent, sexually explicit, harassing, offensive, or oth-
9 erwise unwanted material.

10 (b) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study and
11 preparing the report under subsection (a), the Attorney
12 General shall consult with the National Telecommuni-
13 cations and Information Administration of the Depart-
14 ment of Commerce.

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