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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To repeal section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PATRONIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To repeal section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934,
and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Promoting Responsible
5 Online Technology and Ensuring Consumer Trust Act” or
6 the “PROTECT Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF SECTION 230.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 230 of the Communica-
9 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230) is repealed.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

2 (1) COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.—The Com-
3 munications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) is
4 amended—

5 (A) in section 223—

6 (i) in subsection (h)(1)—

7 (I) by striking subparagraph (D);

8 and

9 (II) by redesignating subpara-
10 graphs (E) and (F) as subparagraphs
11 (D) and (E), respectively; and

12 (ii) in subsection (i), by striking para-
13 graph (2) and inserting the following:

14 “(2) The term ‘interactive computer service’
15 means any information service, system, or access
16 software provider that provides or enables computer
17 access by multiple users to a computer server, in-
18 cluding specifically a service or system that provides
19 access to the Internet and such systems operated or
20 services offered by libraries or educational institu-
21 tions.”; and

22 (B) in section 231(b)(4), by striking “or
23 section 230”.

24 (2) TRADEMARK ACT OF 1946.—Section 45 of
25 the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the registra-

1 tion and protection of trademarks used in commerce,
2 to carry out the provisions of certain international
3 conventions, and for other purposes”, approved July
4 5, 1946 (commonly known as the “Trademark Act
5 of 1946”) (15 U.S.C. 1127), is amended, in the un-
6 designated provision relating to the term “Internet”,
7 by striking “has the meaning given that term in sec-
8 tion 230(f)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934
9 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)(1))” and inserting “means the
10 international computer network of both Federal and
11 non-Federal interoperable packet switched data net-
12 works”.

13 (3) TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section
14 1401 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by
15 striking subsection (g).

16 (4) TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—Part I of
17 title 18, United States Code, is amended—

18 (A) in section 1462, by striking “(as de-
19 fined in section 230(e)(2) of the Communica-
20 tions Act of 1934)” each place it appears and
21 inserting “(as defined in section 223(i) of the
22 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
23 223(i)))”;

24 (B) in section 1465, by striking “(as de-
25 fined in section 230(e)(2) of the Communica-

1 tions Act of 1934)” and inserting “(as defined
2 in section 223(i) of the Communications Act of
3 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223(i)))”;

4 (C) in section 2257(h)(2)(B)(v), by strik-
5 ing “, except that deletion of a particular com-
6 munication or material made by another person
7 in a manner consistent with section 230(c) of
8 the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
9 230(c)) shall not constitute such selection or al-
10 teration of the content of the communication”;
11 and

12 (D) in section 2421A—

13 (i) in subsection (a), by striking “(as
14 such term is defined in defined in section
15 230(f) the Communications Act of 1934
16 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)))” and inserting “(as
17 such term is defined in section 223(i) of
18 the Communications Act of 1934 (47
19 U.S.C. 223(i)))”; and

20 (ii) in subsection (b), by striking “(as
21 such term is defined in defined in section
22 230(f) the Communications Act of 1934
23 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)))” and inserting “(as
24 such term is defined in section 223(i) of

1 the Communications Act of 1934 (47
2 U.S.C. 223(i)))”.

3 (5) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.—Section
4 401(h)(3)(A)(iii)(II) of the Controlled Substances
5 Act (21 U.S.C. 841(h)(3)(A)(iii)(II)) is amended by
6 striking “, except that deletion of a particular com-
7 munication or material made by another person in
8 a manner consistent with section 230(c) of the Com-
9 munications Act of 1934 shall not constitute such
10 selection or alteration of the content of the commu-
11 nication”.

12 (6) WEBB-KENYON ACT.—Section 3(b)(1) of
13 the Act entitled “An Act divesting intoxicating liq-
14 uors of their interstate character in certain cases”,
15 approved March 1, 1913 (commonly known as the
16 “Webb-Kenyon Act”) (27 U.S.C. 122b(b)(1)), is
17 amended by striking “(as defined in section 230(f)
18 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
19 230(f)))” and inserting “(as defined in section 223(i)
20 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
21 223(i)))”.

22 (7) TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section
23 4102 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—
24 (A) by striking subsection (c); and
25 (B) in subsection (e)—

1 (i) by striking “construed to” and all
2 that follows through “affect” and inserting
3 “construed to affect”; and

4 (ii) by striking “defamation; or” and
5 all that follows and inserting “defama-
6 tion.”.

7 (8) DANIEL ANDERL JUDICIAL SECURITY AND
8 PRIVACY ACT OF 2022.—Section 5933(7) of the Dan-
9 iel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2022
10 (Public Law 117–263) is amended by striking “sec-
11 tion 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
12 U.S.C. 230)” and inserting “section 223(i) of the
13 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223(i))”.

14 (9) TITLE 31, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section
15 5362(6) of title 31, United States Code, is amended
16 by striking “section 230(f) of the Communications
17 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(f))” and inserting “sec-
18 tion 223(i) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
19 U.S.C. 223(i))”.

20 (10) NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND IN-
21 FORMATION ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATION ACT.—
22 Section 157 of the National Telecommunications
23 and Information Administration Organization Act
24 (47 U.S.C. 941) is amended—

25 (A) by striking subsection (e); and

1 (B) by redesignating subsections (f)
2 through (j) as subsections (e) through (i), re-
3 spectively.

4 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
5 this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment
6 of this Act.