

Busting Big Tech's Excuses

MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT THE APP STORE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

How to respond when tech lobbyists claim the App Store Accountability Act is impossible, unconstitutional, or dangerous for families.

THE EXCUSE

Age verification is impossible without a government ID.

THE FACT

The App Store Accountability Act does not require a driver's license or passport. It allows privacy-preserving methods that confirm whether a user is a child with the minimum data necessary. App stores already verify identities for payments, ratings, and app distribution—this is well within their technical ability.

THE EXCUSE

This bill bans apps and censors the internet.

THE FACT

The bill does not ban any app, block any content, or restrict speech. It only requires app stores to verify age and get parental consent before a child downloads an app or agrees to terms of service. Adults keep using apps exactly as they do today.

THE EXCUSE

It would bury small app developers in red tape.

THE FACT

Developers benefit from one clear, uniform standard handled at the app-store level. Instead of building their own age checks and navigating a patchwork of state laws, they can rely on Apple and Google to verify age and obtain consent at the front door—saving time and legal complexity.

THE EXCUSE

Parents already have tools to protect their kids.

THE FACT

Parental controls are buried, inconsistent across devices, and often fail because they only work after a child has already downloaded an app. The App Store Accountability Act puts parents at the point of download, before data collection and algorithmic influence begin.

Busting Big Tech's Excuses

MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT THE APP STORE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

THE EXCUSE

This is a Big Government overreach into families.

THE FACT

The bill does not tell parents how to raise their children. It simply gives parents the information and authority they should already have before a child enters a digital contract or downloads an app. It is a consumer protection law, not a parenting manual.

THE EXCUSE

It will be impossible to enforce against overseas apps.

THE FACT

The app stores are the gatekeepers, and they operate inside the United States. Holding Apple and Google accountable is far more practical than chasing every developer around the world. The law creates enforceable standards at the single point every app must pass through.

THE EXCUSE

Age verification is a privacy risk.

THE FACT

The bill is built around privacy-preserving methods and the minimum data necessary. It does not create a government database or require sensitive documentation. Compared to the status quo—where children share personal data with countless apps—this is a major privacy improvement.

Protecting kids starts before the download. That's where parents belong.