

HOUSE BILL NO. 752

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROHIBITING CONTENT PROVIDERS FROM ALLOWING
ACCESS TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL IN MONTANA; PROVIDING A VICTIM THE RIGHT TO
BRING AN ACTION; ~~PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE~~; PROVIDING
FOR A PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION; PROVIDING A STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS; PROVIDING REMEDIES
AND APPORTIONMENT OF DAMAGES; AND PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Definitions.** As used in [sections 1 through 4], unless the context clearly
indicates otherwise, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Child sexual abuse material" means either:

(a) child pornography as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2256; or

(b) obscene matter that depicts a minor personally engaging in, or personally simulating, sexually
explicit conduct.

(2) (a) "Content provider" means any person or entity that is responsible, in whole or in part, for the
active creation, production, publication, distribution, or storage of content provided through the internet or any
other interactive computer service. The term includes but is not limited to a website and software application.

(b) The term does not include a portion of business activity that solely provides:

(i) hosting services to third parties, which includes server or database hosting; or

(ii) a general use browser that retrieves and displays information from an interactive computer
service without regard for the substance of the information; OR

(iii) AN INTERNET SERVICES PROVIDER AS DEFINED IN 2-17-602.

(3) "Department" means the department of justice provided for in 2-15-2001.

content being made reasonably accessible in Montana.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Enforcement -- right of victim to bring action -- enforcement by department of justice -- private right of action -- statute of limitations. (1) A person who is injured by a violation of [section 2] may maintain an action to seek the remedies available under [section 4] as well as restitution.

~~(2) — The department has the authority to enforce [section 2] and may maintain an action to seek the remedies available under [section 4]. The department shall serve a copy of the complaint on a victim who is harmed by the violation alleged in the complaint if the identity of the victim can be reasonably ascertained.~~

~~(3)(2)~~ For any violation of [section 2] not prosecuted by the victim under the authority in subsection (1) ~~or the department under the authority in subsection (2)~~, a private person may maintain an action to seek the remedies under [section 4]. The person shall serve a copy of the complaint on a victim who is harmed by the violation alleged in the complaint if the identity of the victim can be reasonably ascertained.

~~(4)(3)~~ An action under subsection (1) must be brought within ~~50-15~~ years of the violation.

~~(5)(4)~~ An action under subsection (2) ~~or (3)~~ must be brought within ~~40-10~~ years of the violation.

~~(6)(5)~~ A victim's failure to bring an action under subsection (1) or intervene in an action under subsection (2) ~~or (3)~~ does not preclude a victim's ability to bring a tort action for an injury caused by a violation of [section 2], but damages awarded in a tort action for the violation must be reduced by the amount of damages paid to a victim under [section 4].

~~(7)(6)~~ A person who meets an exception to the definition of content provider under [section 1(2)(b)] and also engages in activity covered under the same definition may be found to be in violation of this section only to the extent that the person engages in an activity prohibited under this section as a content provider.

~~(8)(7)~~ For the purposes of this section, each single piece of visual content containing child sexual abuse material constitutes a violation, regardless of whether the visual content is a copy or duplicate.

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Remedies available -- apportionment of damages. (1) A plaintiff who brings an action under [section 3] may seek any of the following:

(a) injunctive relief;