

Big Tech Accountability Act – Summary

1. Amends Section 230 of the federal Communications Decency Act to remove the blanket immunity for social media and other internet companies (ICS) and replace it with immunity only for ICSs that do *not* a) engage in targeting the dissemination of the content to specific individuals or groups of individuals; b) knowingly or negligently encourage or facilitate the spread of misinformation, disinformation, or violence; or c) intentionally engage in a course of business that receives a financial benefit from amplifying misinformation, disinformation, or violence;
2. Bans targeted online advertising, except for targeting of individuals within a geographical area and sorting based on individual search terms;
3. Establishes new federal criminal and civil liability for knowingly disseminating, publishing, or broadcasting fraudulent civic information (information about government services, voting, civil rights, etc.) or for conducting individualized targeting to disseminate the fraudulent civic information, with risk of substantial public harm;
4. Establishes new federal criminal and civil liability for amplifying encouragement of violence;
5. Directs the Federal Trade Commission to study and make recommendations for prohibiting the aggregation and sale of personal information without informed and meaningful consent.