



broadband association of north dakota

P.O. Box 1144 · Mandan, ND 58554

Phone 701-663-1099

[www.broadbandnd.com](http://www.broadbandnd.com)

Feb 7, 2025

RE: SB 2380

Dear Senate Industry and Business Committee:

The members of the Broadband Association of North Dakota are opposed to SB 2380. We do not believe devices that access the Internet should be required to administer age verification.

1. This is an invasion of privacy to require everyone who uses technology to submit their personal information to the manufacturer of internet accessing devices. Providing personal information to technology manufacturers increases risk for identity theft and is an invasion of privacy.
2. It will come at a cost for technology companies to comply with these requirements. Companies could raise the price of the technology to consumers to cover those costs. They could also choose to not sell devices within North Dakota if they are forced to comply with these laws.
3. It's also important to note that nineteen states have passed laws with age verification requirements for adult websites to prevent minors from accessing inappropriate content. This approach makes sense as states across the country hold the directly responsible parties accountable for age verification for other age – regulated products or services. Consider alcohol, gambling, or cigarettes, all of which require age verification for those who wish to purchase those items.
4. SB 2380 is being supported by the adult entertainment industry as they do not want the burden of verifying age to visit their websites. It is concerning to support this group on an agenda they are promoting. (<https://www.freespeechcoalition.com/blog/fsc-supports-north-dakota-age-verification-bill>)

We are supportive of preventing minors from accessing inappropriate content; however, this bill is not the solution. We believe this bill is BAD policy and would rather see the burden of age verification be put on those websites who provide this explicit content.

Thank you for your time and I'm happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carissa M. Swenson".

Carissa Swenson  
Executive Director  
BAND