

2017 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY SENATOR MIZELL

SCHOOLS. Requests school governing authorities to distribute information regarding the public health risks associated with pornography and to encourage parents to install Internet filters on home computers.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the governing authority of each elementary and secondary school to distribute information regarding the public health risks associated with pornography and to encourage parents to install Internet filters on their home computers to protect children from the harms of pornography.

WHEREAS, pornography is creating a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, pornography perpetuates a sexually toxic environment; and

WHEREAS, efforts to prevent pornography exposure and addiction, to educate individuals and families concerning its harmful effects, and to develop recovery programs must be addressed systemically in ways that hold providers accountable; and

WHEREAS, pornography is contributing to the hypersexualization of teens and even prepubescent children in our society; and

WHEREAS, due to the advances in technology and the universal availability of the Internet, young children are exposed to what used to be referred to as hardcore pornography, but is now considered mainstream pornography; and

WHEREAS, the average age of exposure to pornography is now eleven to twelve years of age; and

WHEREAS, this early exposure is leading to low self-esteem and body-image

1 disorders, an increase in problematic sexual activity at younger ages, and an increased desire  
2 among adolescents to engage in risky sexual behavior; and

3 WHEREAS, exposure to pornography often serves as sex education for children and  
4 youth and informs their sexual templates; and

5 WHEREAS, because pornography treats women as objects and commodities for the  
6 use of the viewer, it teaches girls they are to be used and teaches boys to be users; and

7 WHEREAS, pornography normalizes violence and abuse of women and  
8 children; and

9 WHEREAS, pornography treats women and children as objects and often depicts  
10 rape and abuse as if such acts are harmless; and

11 WHEREAS, pornography equates violence towards women and children with sex,  
12 and pain with pleasure, which increases the demand for sex trafficking, prostitution, child  
13 sexual abuse images, and child pornography; and

14 WHEREAS, potential detrimental effects on users of pornography can impact brain  
15 development and functioning, contribute to emotional and medical illnesses, shape deviant  
16 sexual arousal and lead to difficulty in forming or maintaining positive, intimate  
17 relationships, as well as promoting problematic or harmful sexual behaviors and addiction;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, recent neurological research indicates that pornography is potentially  
20 biologically addictive, which means the user requires more novelty, often in the form of  
21 more shocking material, in order to be satisfied; and

22 WHEREAS, this biological addiction leads to increasing themes of risky sexual  
23 behaviors, extreme degradation, violence, and child sexual abuse images and child  
24 pornography; and

25 WHEREAS, pornography use is linked to lessening desire in young men to marry,  
26 dissatisfaction in marriage, and infidelity; and

27 WHEREAS, this link demonstrates that pornography has a detrimental effect on the  
28 family unit; and

29 WHEREAS, overcoming the emotionally and psychologically damaging effects of  
30 pornography is beyond the capability of the afflicted individuals to address alone; and

1           WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes that pornography is a public  
2 health hazard leading to a broad spectrum of individual and public health impacts and  
3 societal harms; and

4           WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the need for education,  
5 prevention, research, and policy change at the community and societal levels in order to  
6 address the pornography epidemic that is harming the people of our state and nation; and

7           WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes that each school governing  
8 authority should bring awareness to all of the following:

9           (1) The dangers of cyberbullying.

10          (2) The addictive nature of illicit materials.

11          (3) The dangers of Internet interaction with strangers.

12          (4) The helpful access for parents who are seeking information related to safeguards  
13 for children at [www.netismartz.org](http://www.netismartz.org).

14          THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
15 urge and request the governing authority of each elementary and secondary school to  
16 distribute information regarding the public health risks associated with pornography and to  
17 encourage parents to install Internet filters on their home computers to protect children from  
18 the harms of pornography.

19          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge  
20 and request each school governing authority to bring awareness to all of the following:

21          (1) The dangers of cyberbullying.

22          (2) The addictive nature of illicit materials.

23          (3) The dangers of Internet interaction with strangers.

24          (4) The helpful access for parents who are seeking information related to safeguards  
25 for children at [www.netismartz.org](http://www.netismartz.org).

26          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted  
27 to the state Department of Education to be distributed to each governing authority of each  
28 elementary and secondary school.

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The original instrument was prepared by Carla S. Roberts. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

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Requests the governing authority of each elementary and secondary school to bring awareness to:

- (1) The dangers of cyberbullying.
- (2) The addictive nature of illicit materials.
- (3) The dangers of Internet interactions with strangers.
- (4) The information related to safeguards for children at [www.netismartz.org](http://www.netismartz.org).

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Makes technical changes.