

YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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Senate Bill Number \_\_\_\_\_

Legislative Action:

Introduced by: Austin Ouellette

House Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Authored by: Austin Ouellette

House: \_\_\_\_\_

Senate Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegation: Butte High School

Senate: \_\_\_\_\_

Governor: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred to Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

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1 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "CENSORSHIP PROTECTION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
2 STUDENTS"

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4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE MONTANA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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6 **Section 1: Intent** The intent of this bill is to ensure that students have access to all forms  
7 and sources of electronic media information, and to ensure that such media is provided to  
8 students regardless of content of said media. This bill will eliminate any "firewall" devices  
9 which prohibit students from accessing information via the internet. Additionally, the use of  
10 devices which block specific television channels due to political content shall be disallowed.

11 **Section 2: Television** Devices which filter the content of television by eliminating a  
12 specific frequency of information through any type of television transmission and thereby  
13 blocking specific television channels are not to be installed on any television in Montana Public  
14 Schools.

15 **Section 3: Internet** The use of "firewall" or other content blocking device installed on  
16 computers in public schools shall be disallowed. No device may, in full or in part, prohibit a  
17 student's access to content on the internet, provided such content does not impede the  
18 educational process. Students shall have access to email, to videos when in relation news,  
19 politics, or school related activities, and to opinioned blogs and news sources.

20 **Section 4: Exceptions:** Any content which is violent, pornographic, promotes illegal  
21 drug or substance use, any social networking site such as MySpace or Facebook, or causes  
22 disruption to the normal functioning of a classroom shall be subject to being blocked from use on  
23 school district computers at the discretion of teachers alone.

24 **Section 5: Violation** Any school district that does not conform to this bill will be subject  
25 to the loss of state funding.

26 **Section 6: Effective Date** This bill will become effective fifty (50) days after passage.  
27 With schools that currently use such devices as described in this bill having the devices removed  
28 by such date.

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