



## **Advocates Rally on Capitol Hill Urging Congress to Pass Kids Online Safety Act Before Year-End**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (December 10, 2024)** – Today, parents, advocates, and representatives gathered on Capitol Hill to urge Congress to pass the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA) before the year ends. The event featured emotional testimonials from families who have experienced devastating losses due to online harms. Wrapped presents symbolizing the lives lost since KOSA was introduced served as a stark reminder of the children missing another holiday season — representing only a fraction of the countless lives impacted by social media-driven harms.

The Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy, & Action (EDC), Fairplay, ParentsSOS, Accountable Tech, Design It For Us, Issue One, Suicide Awareness Voices of Education, and ParentsTogether Action hosted the event amid an outpouring of support from prominent voices in the incoming Trump administration.

“Social media companies have failed to protect our children,” **said Tracy Ann Bancroft, Parent Advocate, EDC.** “We need Congress to act now. KOSA’s updated text ensures that platforms are held accountable for harmful design practices while providing parents and young people with the tools, transparency, and safeguards they need for safer online experiences. We can’t wait until next year. Children are being harmed and dying every day.”

With bipartisan support from the U.S. Senate, which passed KOSA with a 91-3 vote, the bill now awaits a vote in the House of Representatives. Advocates called on Speaker Mike Johnson and Majority Leader Steve Scalise to bring the legislation to the floor without delay. The updated KOSA text further solidifies that the bill will protect free speech while maintaining the critical safeguards families need.

“We cannot afford to wait any longer,” **said Christine Peat, Board President, EDC.** “Social media platforms continue to expose our children to harmful content, including dangerous body image pressures that contribute to eating disorders. KOSA is an essential step in holding these companies accountable and providing the protections that our children desperately need. The lives lost to online harms are a tragedy, and we urge Congress to act swiftly and pass this critical legislation before the year ends. Every moment of delay is a moment that our children cannot afford.”

*The Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy, & Action is a federal advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C. The EDC advances the recognition of eating disorders as a public health priority throughout the United States.*

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