

Testimony of Alain Xiong-Calmes Director of State & Local Public Policy Chamber of Progress Re: HB 707

January 25, 2024

Good morning Chair Lopez members of the Committee:

My name is Alain Xiong-Calmes and I serve as Director of State & Local Public Policy for Chamber of Progress, a tech industry coalition committed to ensuring all Americans benefit from technological innovation. Our corporate partners include companies like Snap and Google but our partners do not have a vote on or veto over our positions.

One of Chamber of Progress's top priorities is protecting online privacy. We support robust protections for consumers such as reasonable data security, data minimization, and purpose limitation.

This legislation correctly conditions data processing of known children on compliance with time-tested federal children's privacy standards. It also promotes transparency through meaningful disclosure.

In contrast, many well-intentioned proposals would actually undermine core privacy principles. For example, proposals to require tech companies to verify the age of users by scanning picture IDs would run counter to data minimization. They would also create a cybersecurity risk - in effect turning every tech company into a ransomware target as bad actors seek valuable personal data.

We commend you for your more thoughtful approach.

For these reasons we are happy to support HB 707.

Respectfully,

Alain Xiong-Calmes

Director of State & Local Public Policy