

# H5476 • South Carolina

## Protecting Children from Chatbots

Introduced

Risk: High

Comprehensive

Last Action (Mar 31, 2026): Referred to Committee on Judiciary

## Summary

SC H5476: Protecting Children from Chatbots mandates covered entities to make a limited-access mode specifically for minors, requires age verification and parental consent, and amends SC Code by adding Chapter 81 to Title 39.

## Business Impact

If you operate a chatbot with over 500,000 users, you must implement age verification and limited-access modes by the effective date or face penalties.

## Key Provisions

- Covered entities must make a limited-access mode available specifically for minors with age verification.
- Age verification is required before enabling restricted features.
- Operators cannot prioritize engagement metrics that harm user wellbeing.
- Procedures for reporting incidents of harm inflicted on minors by chatbots are mandated.
- Parental consent allows minors to use chatbots in limited-access mode or access restricted features.
- Penalties are imposed for violations of the act, ensuring compliance.

## Compliance Checklist

- Implement age verification processes for users. | Who: Operators of chatbots with over 500,000 users. | Penalty: Up to \$50,000 per violation.
- Provide a limited-access mode for unverified users. | Who: Operators of chatbots. | Penalty: Up to \$50,000 per violation.

## Industries Affected

Artificial  
Intelligence

Child Safety

General

Technology

Digital Services

## Topics

User-Facing AI

## Bill Sponsors

Name	Party	Role
Moore		Primary
Ott		Primary
Cobb-Hunter		Primary
Whitmire		Primary
Clyburn		Primary
Alexander		Primary
Anderson		Primary
Atkinson		Primary
Bailey		Primary
Ballentine		Primary
Bamberg		Primary
Bannister		Primary

## Related Bills

- S1037 (SC)

## Official Source

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=5476&session;=126&summary;=B>

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