



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Committee Bill No. 6385

LCO No. 5495



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING STATE AGENCY COMPLAINTS REGARDING
INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS TO SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section
2 (1) "state agency" and "state employee" have the same meanings as
3 provided in section 1-79 of the general statutes, (2) "state elected official"
4 means any state-wide elected officer, member or member-elect of the
5 General Assembly or elected judge of any court, and (3) "social media
6 platform" means a service for public users to disseminate speech,
7 expression, information or other content, including messages, videos,
8 photographs or sound files to other users or the public.

9 (b) No state employee or state elected official shall contact an entity
10 operating a social media platform to lodge a complaint against an
11 individual or group regarding content posted by such individual or
12 group on a social media platform unless the state agency of such
13 employee or official has (1) provided such individual or group with a
14 public hearing prior to contacting any such entity, and (2) given at least
15 forty-eight hours' notice of such hearing, unless there is an emergency

16 situation that the state agency determines requires such public hearing
17 to occur within forty-eight hours of such complaint.

18 (c) Any individual or group that has been blocked or otherwise
19 restricted from communicating on a social media platform based upon
20 the complaint of a state employee or state elected official may appeal
21 such restriction to the Superior Court. The court may enjoin the entity
22 operating a social media platform from blocking or otherwise restricting
23 such individual or group if it finds such individual's or group's right to
24 free speech has been infringed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To require state agencies to hold a hearing prior to contacting a social media platform to complain about an individual or group and to authorize such individual or group to appeal any adverse decision.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. O'DEA, 125th Dist.; SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.
REP. MASTROFRANCESCO, 80th Dist.

H.B. 6385