

PRESS RELEASE



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Barton calls FTC's proposed rule changes an important step toward protecting kids online

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Joe Barton (R-Texas), Co-Chairman of the Congressional Privacy Caucus, issued the following statement after reviewing the Federal Trade Commission announced it was seeking public comments on additional proposed modifications to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule:

"I am happy to hear that the Federal Trade Commission is taking the necessary steps to ensure that stakeholders have a chance to comment on revisions to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act.

"The potential changes proposed are a great foundation to start the conversation about how to protect our kids online by addressing how personally identifiable information should be used, how we should define a website geared towards children 12 and younger, and further defining the term "operator."

"I am a longtime advocate for stronger privacy protections for all Americans, but especially our future leaders. I believe that it is imperative that we protect our kids from the misuse of personal information because their safety and future is at risk. These proposed changes to COPPA are a step in the right direction, but I believe that our children need stronger protections included in the Do Not Track Kids Act, a bill I have introduced with my friend Mr. Markey. As Co-Chair of the Bi-Partisan Privacy Caucus, I will continue to stress the importance of allowing consumers to have control over their personal information, and I hope that more of my colleagues will join me in this effort."