

April 11, 2022

The Honorable Chair, Assembly Committee on Privacy and Consumer Protection Room 159, Legislative Office Building 1020 N Street Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2486 (Gabriel)-SUPPORT

Dear Chair Gabriel and Honorable Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Common Sense Media, sponsor of this legislation, I am writing to express our strong support for Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel's AB 2486: which creates the Office for the Protection of Children Online.

AB 2486 is a strong example of how California can prioritize and support the health and safety of children in online spaces. AB 2486 does this by creating an office focussed specifically on ensuring that digital media available to California's children is designed, provided, and accessed in a manner that duly protects the privacy, civil liberties, and mental and physical wellbeing of children.

As indicated in the voter approved California Privacy Rights Act of 2020 (CPRA), a particular level of sensitivity is necessary in regards to the privacy rights of children online. For instance, the CPRA made findings that "children are particularly vulnerable from a negotiating perspective with respect to their privacy rights," and that "businesses should be held accountable when they violate consumers' privacy rights, and the penalties should be higher when the violation affects children."

By creating a dedicated state office, AB 2486 will ensure the proper level of priority and focus is placed on protecting children online.

For these reasons, Common Sense is proud to sponsor this measure and respectfully asks for your "Aye" vote on AB 2486.

Sincerely,

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Marvin J. Deon II Vice President, CA Policy, Common Sense Media