

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

S

2

SENATE BILL 408
Judiciary Committee Substitute Adopted 4/30/25

Short Title: No High Risk Apps/Gov't Networks & Devices.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 25, 2025

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF TIKTOK ON GOVERNMENT DEVICES.
The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 10 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 143-162.11. Prohibition on the use of TikTok and other applications.

(a) No employee of the State or of a local political subdivision of the State shall download or use a covered application or access the website of a covered application on or using any government-issued device or information technology.

(b) No person contracting with the State, or with a local political subdivision of the State, may access, download, or use a covered application on equipment owned or leased by the State or by a local political subdivision of the State.

(c) No person may access, download, or use a covered application on any government-issued device.

(d) State agencies and local political subdivisions of the State shall restrict access to the websites of covered applications on government-issued devices and information technology.

(e) The following definitions apply in this section:

(1) Covered application. – Any of the following applications or services:

a. TikTok or any successor application or service developed or provided by ByteDance Limited or an entity owned by ByteDance Limited.

b. WeChat or any successor application or service developed or provided by Tencent Holdings Limited or an entity owned by Tencent Holdings Limited.

(2) Device. – Any cellular phone, desktop computer, laptop, or other electronic device capable of connecting to the internet issued by the State or by a local political subdivision of the State.

(3) Information technology. – As defined by G.S. 143B-1320(a)(11). The term also includes (i) any equipment or interconnected system or subsystem of equipment used in the automatic acquisition, storage, analysis, evaluation, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information by a State-funded program, whether the equipment is used by the State-funded program directly or is used by a contractor under a contract with the State-funded program that requires the use of that equipment in the performance of a service or the furnishing of a product and (ii) computers, mobile devices, and virtual machines as well as ancillary equipment,



* S 4 0 8 - V - 2 *

1 peripheral equipment designed to be controlled by the central processing unit
2 of a computer, software, firmware and similar procedures, services (including
3 support services), and related resources.

4 (4) State-funded program. – Any program or activity funded in whole or in part
5 by State, federal, or local funds."

6 **SECTION 2.** Any employee of the State or of a local political subdivision of the
7 State, or any person contracting with the State or with a local political subdivision of the State,
8 who has already downloaded a covered application to a government-issued device shall remove,
9 delete, and uninstall the covered application no later than 30 days after the enactment of this act.

10 **SECTION 3.** Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent prosecutorial, law
11 enforcement agencies, and employees of the State Auditor engaged in investigations from
12 accessing the applications covered by this act for prosecutorial, law enforcement, and
13 investigative purposes. By March 1, 2026, the Departments of Information Technology and
14 Public Safety shall develop jointly the guidelines necessary for prosecutorial and law
15 enforcement agency access to covered applications along with the risk mitigation actions
16 necessary for such use.

17 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.