A BILL

To authorize a Federal report and longitudinal study regarding the effects of social media on users under age 18.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Federal Social Media Research Act”.

SEC. 2. SHORT-TERM STUDY.

(a) Study.—The Comptroller General of the United States, in partnership with any other Federal agency the Comptroller General may designate, shall study the impact of social media technologies on the mental and physical
health of social media users under age 18, with particular 
attention to assessing current circumstances and expected 
trends. Such study shall aim to assess in particular any 
relationship between social media use patterns and the fol-
lowing medical conditions:

(1) Suicidality.
(2) Anxiety.
(3) Depression.
(4) Eating disorders.
(5) Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.
(6) Gender dysphoria.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date 
of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall 
submit a report to Congress on the study required under 
subsection (a).

(e) APPROPRIATIONS.—Out of any money in the 
Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appro-
priated to the Comptroller General, for fiscal year 2023, 
$1,000,000, to remain available until expended, to carry 
out the study described in this section.

SEC. 3. LONGITUDINAL STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United 
States, in partnership with any other Federal agency the 
Comptroller General may designate, shall study the impact 
of social media technologies on the mental and physical
health of a cohort of social media users initially drawn from the population of such users under age 18, with particular attention to the long-term effects of social media technology use on the health of such users. Such study shall aim to assess in particular any relationship between social media use patterns and the medical conditions listed in section 2(a).

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress on the study required under subsection (a).

(c) APPROPRIATIONS.—Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated to the Comptroller General, for fiscal year 2023, $20,000,000, to remain available until expended, to carry out the study described in this section.