

Article 51.

Commercial Publication and Distribution of Material Harmful to Minors.

**§ 66-500. Short title; definitions.**

(a) This Article shall be known as the Pornography Age Verification Enforcement Act or the PAVE Act.

(b) The following definitions shall apply to this Article:

- (1) Commercial entity. – Corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships, limited partnerships, sole proprietorships, or other legally recognized entities.
- (2) Distribute. – To issue, sell, give, provide, deliver, transfer, transmute, circulate, or disseminate by any means.
- (3) Harmful to minors. – As defined in G.S. 14-190.13.
- (4) Internet. – The international computer network of both federal and non-federal interoperable packet switched data networks.
- (5) Material. – As defined in G.S. 14-190.13.
- (6) News-gathering organization. – Any of the following:
  - a. An employee of a newspaper, news publication, or news source, printed or on an online or mobile platform, of current news and public interest, while operating as an employee as provided in this sub-subdivision, who can provide documentation of such employment with the newspaper, news publication, or news source.
  - b. A radio broadcast station, television broadcast station, cable television operator, or wire service, or an employee of a radio broadcast station, television broadcast station, cable television operator, or wire service.
- (7) Publish. – To communicate or make information available to another person or entity on a publicly available website.
- (8) Substantial portion. – More than thirty-three and one-third percent (33 1/3%) of total material on a website, which meets the definition of material harmful to minors as defined in this subsection. (2023-132, s. 3.20(a); 2025-25, s. 29(5).)