## **RESOLUTION No. 24-31**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT HOUSE BILL 3 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE COMMERCIAL ENTITIES THAT PUBLISH MATERIAL HARMFUL TO MINORS TO PROHIBIT ACCESS TO SUCH MATERIAL TO ANY PERSON YOUNGER THAN 18 YEARS OF AGE, AND FURTHER REQUIRES THAT SAID ENTITY IMPLEMENT REASONABLE AGE-VERIFICATION METHODS; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO SUPPORT AND APPROVE THE LEGISLATION; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, internet usage and mobile technology have become mainstream, especially among teens and young adults, which has expanded the creation and dissemination of pornography; and

**WHEREAS,** the majority of Americans, including minors, are exposed to pornography online regularly, and 56 percent of American high school students have viewed pornography in the last year; and

WHEREAS, unfettered access and viewing of pornography by adolescents can have long-term adverse effects on those minors; and

WHEREAS, several states, including Louisiana, Utah, Arkansas, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Texas, and Virginia, have recently passed legislation to require websites that host obscene material or other material harmful to minors to verify the age of a visitor and block access to minors; and

**WHEREAS,** on January 5, 2024, House Bill 3 ("HB 3") was introduced for consideration during the 2024 session of the Florida Legislature; and

WHEREAS, HB 3 imposes the following requirements on commercial entities that knowingly and intentionally publishes or distributes material harmful to minors on a website or application:

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- prohibit access to such material by any person younger than 18 years of age;
- perform reasonable age-verification methods to verify that the age of a person attempting to access the material is 18 years of age or older;
- provide an easily accessible link or function on its homepage, landing page,
  or age-verification page to allow a minor user or the confirmed parent or
  guardian of the minor user to report unauthorized or unlawful access; and
- prohibit or block future access by the minor within five days after receiving such a report.

WHEREAS, the HB 3 also provides for penalties and a private cause of action against the commercial entities for violations of the statute; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Doral ("City") believes that in protecting the innocence of the City's children, it collectively serves the best interests of the general public and the community, fostering a safer and more secure online environment for the well-being of the City's youth; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of residents of the City, and of the State of Florida, to adopt HB 3.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein.

Section 2. Support of HB 3. The City Council for the City of Doral urges the Florida Legislature to enact House Bill 3, or similar legislation, and urges the Florida Legislature to adopt, and Governor Ron DeSantis to support and approve, the bill.

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<u>Section 3.</u> <u>Transmittal.</u> The City Clerk for the City of Doral is hereby directed to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, Representative Juan Carlos Porras, and the Chair and remaining Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Councilman Rafael Pineyro.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Pineyro who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Puig-Corve and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

| Mayor Christi Fraga         | Yes |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Vice Mayor Oscar Puig-Corve | Yes |
| Councilwoman Digna Cabral   | Yes |
| Councilman Rafael Pineyro   | Yes |
| Councilwoman Maureen Porras | Yes |

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14 day of February, 2024.

CHRISTI FRAGA, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CONNIE DIAZ, MMC

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF DORAL ONLY:

VALERIE VICENTE, ESQ. for

NABORS, GIBLIN & NICKERSON, P.A.

**CITY ATTORNEY**