Resolution No. 119-2023
AS AMENDED

By Council Member Polensek

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION
Strongly recommending that the administration adopt a strict policy prohibiting City employees from using any ~~Chinese-owned~~ social media platforms owned by firms located in the People's Republic of China on City-issued devices.

WHEREAS, certain social media platforms, such as TikTok and WeChat are owned by ~~Chinese~~ firms located in the People's Republic of China (PRC); and

WHEREAS, the ~~Chinese~~ PRC government is making efforts to expand control ~~beyond China~~ into other countries through its digital platforms and has encouraged ~~Chinese~~ firms located in the PRC that own such digital platforms to do national security audits of any data that is gathered; and

WHEREAS, the FBI says the video-sharing app TikTok, poses national security concerns because it is owned by the company ByteDance which is headquartered in ~~Beijing and the Chinese~~ the PRC and the PRC government likely uses the app to influence users, spread misinformation or control users' devices; and

WHEREAS, TikTok, is subject to those same national security data audits because it shares data with its ~~Chinese-owned~~ parent company, ByteDance, which is located in the PRC; and

WHEREAS, the US government has recently banned TikTok from most U.S. government-issued devices; similarly, about 1/3 of U.S. states have banned TikTok use on government devices; and

WHEREAS, over concerns that sensitive personal information and business data will be shared with the ~~Chinese~~ PRC government, Governor Mike DeWine recently signed an executive order prohibiting state workers from using TikTok, WeChat and other ~~Chinese-owned~~ social media apps owned by firms located in the PRC on state-issued devices; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council strongly recommends that the administration adopt a strict policy prohibiting City employees from using any ~~Chinese-owned~~ social media platforms owned by firms located in the People's Republic of China, on City-issued devices.

Section 2. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

MDP:rns
1/23/2023

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READ FIRST TIME on JANUARY 23, 2023 **REPORTS**
and referred to DIRECTOR of Law;
COMMITTEE on Finance Diversity Equity and Inclusion

CITY CLERK

READ SECOND TIME

CITY CLERK

READ THIRD TIME

PRESIDENT

CITY CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR

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REPORT
after Second Reading

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED BY COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE, DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSION

FILED WITH COMMITTEE