



News From  
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## **GOODLATTE INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO MAKE THE INTERNET SAFER FOR CHILDREN**

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Representative Bob Goodlatte (R-VA-06), announced at an Internet Caucus Luncheon today that he was introducing legislation to encourage members of Congress to voluntarily label the content of their Congressional web sites. Goodlatte, who serves as Co-Chairman of the Congressional Internet Caucus, said he was hopeful that his colleagues would take this simple step towards making the Internet safer for children.

The House bi-partisan resolution, which was co-sponsored by Representatives Anna Eshoo (D-CA-14), Jennifer Dunn (R-WA-08), Bob Etheridge (D-NC-02), Chris Cannon (R-UT-03), Zoe Lofgren (D-CA-16) and Adam Smith (D-WA-09), urges all Representatives to label their sites consistent with the Internet Content Ratings Association (ICRA) system, or with other voluntary Internet content filtering organizations.

**“It is in the public interest that Members of the House of Representatives configure their Internet web sites in a manner consistent with Internet content labeling and filtering tools, in order to make the Internet safer for children while protecting freedom of expression,”** Goodlatte said.

ICRA has created a system that empowers parents and other concerned adults to protect children from material they deem to be harmful while protecting freedom of expression on the Internet. ICRA does not rate content, content providers do that using the ICRA system. ICRA makes no value judgments about which sites are suitable for children; parents and other concerned are given that responsibility. The result is a voluntary system that helps keep children away from content which parents believe to be inappropriate.

**“As a policymaker and a parent, I’m concerned for the safety of children as they use the Internet and enjoy the benefits it has to offer. ICRA’s system of voluntary labeling and its free filter provide an opportunity for us all to help protect children without hindering the growth of the Internet or infringing upon our citizens’ First Amendment right to free speech,”** Goodlatte said.

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