



## **CBCF EXECUTIVE ORDER TRACKER**

# **Extending the TikTok Enforcement Delay**

## **Executive Order #14258**

**Date Issued:** March 19, 2025

**Topic:** National Security, Technology

### **WHAT DOES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO?**

- This executive order extends the enforcement delay specified in Executive Order 14166, [Application Of Protecting Americans From Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act To TikTok](#), until June 19, 2025.
- At present, this order suggests that no action shall be taken to ban TikTok or affiliated platforms housed under the China based parent company, ByteDance Ltd., in the United States before the listed date of June 19, 2025.
- The order also prohibits the Department of Justice from taking any action to enforce the act or impose any penalties against any entity for conduct occurring during the specified period.



## HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- The order confers sole authority to the Attorney General to investigate and enforce the act as a representative of the “powers of the Executive,” while prohibiting any attempted enforcement by States or private parties.
- The Attorney General must provide written guidance for implementing this order. They must also issue a letter to providers confirming there has been no violation of the statute. Hosting sites and affiliate companies are not liable for any conduct occurring during the specified period.
- Lastly, the order directs the Attorney General to exercise their given authority to “preserve and defend the Executive’s exclusive authority to enforce the Act.”
- Of importance to note, the initial order delayed the implementation of the Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act, which Congress enacted in 2024 with bipartisan support. However, because the law does not appear to grant the executive branch authority to alter or delay its timeline once enacted, critics have questioned the legality of using an executive order to delay or suspend a law passed by the legislative branch.





## HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- According to [Pew Research](#), about 28% of Black teens report using TikTok “almost constantly.” Additionally, Black users make up approximately 16% of TikTok users who regularly get news from the platform, surpassing their share of the general U.S. population (12%). This overrepresentation suggests that a TikTok ban could disproportionately affect Black communities, particularly in terms of access to information, culture, and connection.
- TikTok has been an instrumental tool for Black business owners. A [survey report](#) from Oxford Economics, in partnership with TikTok, indicated that 83% of African American small or mid-sized business owners reported seeing their sales increase after promoting their product or service on TikTok. Additionally, 57% of African American respondents said that TikTok is critical to their business’s existence. The app has provided small businesses with access to audiences without the substantive marketing budget that traditional media requires. Extending the delay to the TikTok ban allows small Black-owned businesses and creators to continue leveraging the app for economic opportunity.
- TikTok has also been a site for cultural expression and education for Black communities. Hashtags such as [#HillmanTok](#) are indicative of the app’s capacity to serve as a space for a more democratized education, with Black scholars crowdsourcing and sharing their expertise in a myriad of subjects, including some that the current administration is working to ban from universities and school curricula. What started as a hashtag has become a movement for preserving Black history and highlighting the importance of inclusive education. Recently, HillmanTok instructors [met](#) with lawmakers, including Sen. Raphael Warnock and Rep. Jasmine Crockett, in an event to bring awareness to the grassroots movement.
- The continued threat of a TikTok ban leaves many Black content creators in a precarious position as they await potential disruptions to their livelihoods and access to the communities they’ve built on the platform.



## HOW ARE CBC MEMBERS RESPONDING?

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) have urged the executive branch to work with Congress to find a resolution that would keep TikTok online in the U.S. As the April deadline approached, Sen. Booker, along with other Democrats, issued a statement.

- **Sen. Cory Booker:** “Without any further action from Congress, the 170 million Americans that rely on TikTok will continue to face uncertainty about TikTok’s future. Creators will continue to fear that the platform could disappear at any moment. This situation is unfair and unworkable. We urge you to stand up for TikTok’s users and use your immense influence over congressional Republicans to demand a long-term solution to the TikTok ban.” [Full Statement](#)
- The recent statement is a part of a broader, ongoing effort by Booker and other Senate Democrats. On January 16, 2025, **Sen. Cory Booker**, alongside other Congress members, issued a [letter](#) to President Joe Biden urging him to delay the enforcement of the ban. Additionally, they introduced the [Extend the TikTok Deadline Act](#), which would have delayed the initial January 19th deadline by which ByteDance was required to sell TikTok.
- Last year, **Rep. Maxwell Frost** issued a statement expressing his concern about a potential ban on TikTok. “Let’s be clear that I am deeply concerned about our foreign adversaries accessing our private data online, but this bill is not the comprehensive reform we need to reign in Big Tech and protect Americans from harm and manipulation.” [Full Statement](#)