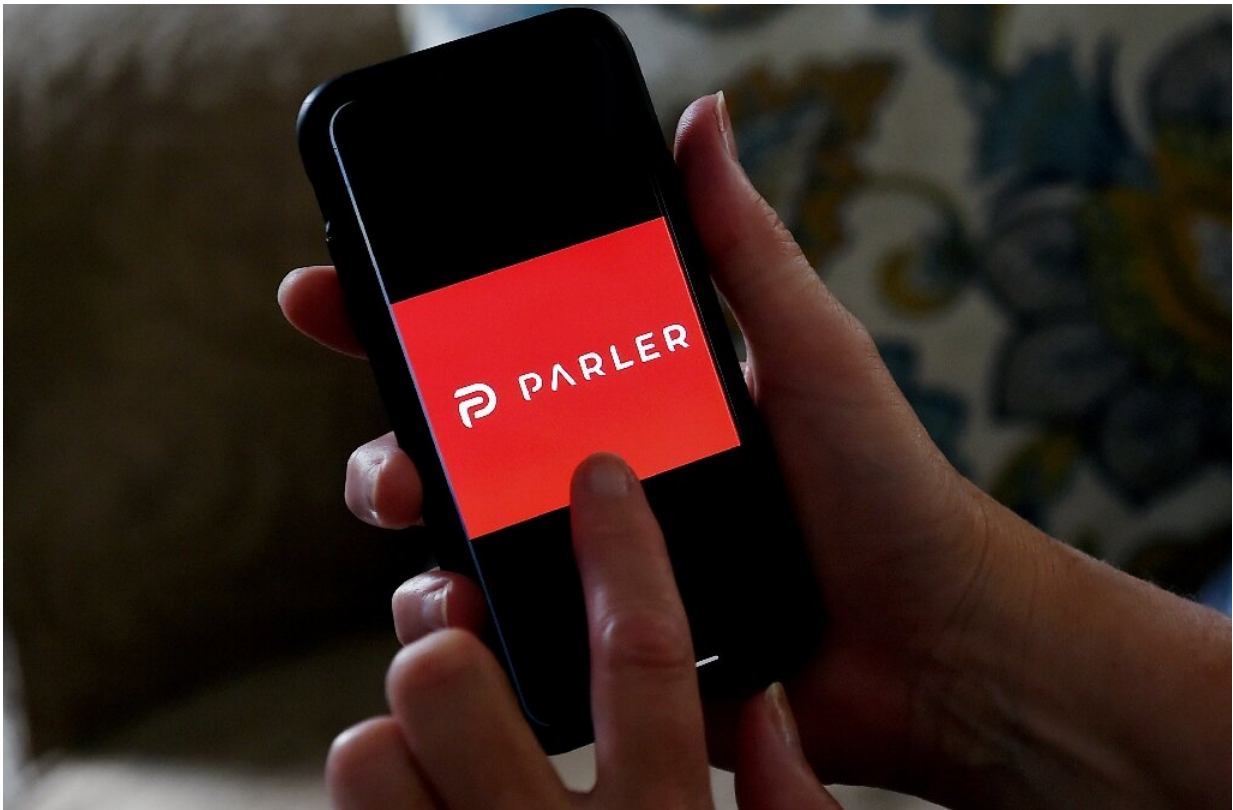


Apple to let tweaked Parler back in App Store

April 19 2021



The social network Parler which has been a favorite of conservatives will be allowed back in Apple's online marketplace after making changes to its policies to curb incitements to violence

A version of social network Parler updated to curb incitements to violence has been cleared to return to Apple's App Store, a US

congressman said Monday.

A team at Apple devoted to reviewing whether apps submitted to its App Store conform to its policies has approved a modified version of Parler, which had become popular with conservatives before it was booted off online marketplaces.

The news came from a copy of a letter from Apple posted on Twitter by US Representative Ken Buck of Colorado.

"Parler has proposed updates to its app and the app's content moderation practices," read the letter signed by Apple senior director of government affairs in the Americas Timothy Powderly.

"Its proposed updated app will be approved for reinstallation in the App Store."

Apple, queried by AFP, offered no additional comment.

Powderly noted in the letter that Apple stood by its independent decision to remove Parler from the App Store in the aftermath of the January 6 attack on the US Capitol by supporters of former president Donald Trump.

Buck said in his tweet that Parler's return to the App Store is "a huge win for [free speech](#)."

Parler relaunched in February after being forced offline over incitements to violence on the platform.

Parler, which calls itself "the free speech social network", came under scrutiny following the deadly attack on the US Capitol.

Apple and Google pulled the network's app from their download platforms and Amazon's web hosting service cut ties as well.

Powderly said in the letter that Apple had found many posts violating the iPhone maker's rules about app content moderation.

He said there were "posts that encouraged violence, denigrated various ethnic groups, races and religions, glorified Nazism, and called for violence against specific people."

Apple chief executive Tim Cook said early this year that Parler could return the App Store if it changed how it moderates posts on the platform.

Nevada-based Parler, which launched in 2018, operates much like Twitter, with profiles to follow and "parleys" instead of tweets.

In its early days, the platform attracted a crowd of ultraconservative and even extreme-right users. It has since signed up many more traditional Republican voices.

Parler fired its chief executive John Matze soon after the deadly attack on the US Capitol.

© 2021 AFP

Citation: Apple to let tweaked Parler back in App Store (2021, April 19) retrieved 9 April 2024 from <https://techxplore.com/news/2021-04-apple-tweaked-parler-app.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--