
By: **Delegate Hecht**
Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1999
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes - Solicitation of Minors - Computers**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from using a computer in a certain manner
4 to solicit a minor to commit certain offenses; providing a certain exception;
5 providing certain penalties; providing for venue; and generally relating to
6 computers and the solicitation of minors.

7 BY adding to
8 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
9 Section 555D
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

15 555D.

16 (A) A PERSON MAY NOT, WITH THE INTENT THAT THE OFFENSE BE
17 COMMITTED, UTILIZE A COMPUTER OR ANY OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS TO SOLICIT,
18 INDUCE, LURE, OR ENTICE A MINOR OR ANOTHER PERSON BELIEVED TO BE A MINOR
19 TO COMMIT OR JOIN IN THE COMMISSION OF THE OFFENSES OF:

20 (1) A SEXUAL OFFENSE IN VIOLATION OF § 462, § 463, § 464, § 464A, § 464B,
21 OR § 464C OF THIS ARTICLE;

22 (2) CHILD ABUSE UNDER § 35C OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

23 (3) CHILD PORNOGRAPHY AS DEFINED UNDER §§ 419A AND 419B OF THIS
24 ARTICLE.

25 (B) IT IS A DEFENSE TO A PROSECUTION UNDER THIS SECTION THAT THE
26 DEFENDANT, AFTER SOLICITING A MINOR TO COMMIT AN OFFENSE LISTED IN
27 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, PERSUADED THE MINOR NOT TO DO SO OR

1 OTHERWISE PREVENTED THE COMMISSION OF THE OFFENSE UNDER
2 CIRCUMSTANCES MANIFESTING A COMPLETE AND VOLUNTARY RENUNCIATION OF
3 THE DEFENDANT'S CRIMINAL INTENT.

4 (C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON
5 CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE FOR THE CRIME SOLICITED.

6 (D) A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION IN THIS STATE MAY TRY A
7 PERSON WHO ALLEGEDLY VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS SECTION IN ANY
8 COUNTY IN THIS STATE WHERE:

9 (1) THE PERSON PERFORMS THE ACT;

10 (2) THE MINOR RESIDES; OR

11 (3) THE COMPUTER OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS IS LOCATED.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 1999.