

HB1062_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
2/20/2022

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TESTIMONY ON HB#1062 - POSITION: FAVORABLE

Criminal Law - Harassment - Digitally Altered or Generated Visual Representations

TO: Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#1062, Criminal Law - Harassment - Digitally Altered or Generated Visual Representations

In our current polarized political climate and breakdown of civility AI and other techniques are being used to intentionally digitally alter or generate sexual content of a person who neither posed, created, or authorized the production and distribution of the altered images.

It might be for revenge where a person seeks to degrade or harm the reputation of a former or possible relationship that ended badly. It might be to harm the reputation of someone whose political views do not align with the image creator. Taylor Swift has been affected by this disgusting practice as documented by NBC News.¹

This bill will provide victims of this heinous act a path to seek criminal and other penalties to the perpetrator of this outrageous conduct. It may serve as a deterrent to that hateful action by making sure it carries significant costs and penalties to anyone seeking to implement these images.

In the technological world of AI this production of altered images has become much easier and social medias spread has made distribution of the images faster and more certain. This bill is Maryland stating that misuse of technology will carry penalties for the person who commits this moral and ethical violation.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB1062.

¹ <https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/misinformation/taylor-swift-nude-deepfake-goes-viral-x-platform-rules-rcna135669>