



Bill No: SB113
Title: Criminal Law – Sexual Solicitation of a Minor Through Child Pornography – Prohibition
Committee: Judicial Proceedings
Hearing: January 25, 2024
Position: SUPPORT

The Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) is a statewide coalition of women’s groups and individuals formed to provide a non-partisan, independent voice for Maryland women and families. MLAW’s purpose is to advocate for legislation affecting women and families. To accomplish this goal, MLAW creates an annual legislative agenda with issues voted on by MLAW members and endorsed by organizations and individuals from all over Maryland. **SB113 - Criminal Law – Sexual Solicitation of a Minor Through Child Pornography – Prohibition** is a priority on the **2024 MLAW Agenda** and we urge your support.

SB113 would expand expands the definition of sexual solicitation of a minor to include production of child pornography.

Online sexual exploitation of female children has increasing tremendously. The proliferation of phones and technology has moved predatory sexual offenders online. In 2022 alone, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received 32 million CyberTipline reports of suspected online child sexual abuse – this is a nearly 8,000% increase from 2012. Predators meet children online and ask them to produce sexual images and videos of themselves. Offenders send minors pornography, explicit instructions, and in some cases, they send sex toys for the minor to utilize in the photo and videos. This conduct is currently not prohibited in the current 3-324 statute.

Adding 11-207 Production of Child Pornography to the listed prohibited offenses in 3-324 Sexual Solicitation of a Minor will enable law enforcement to hold offenders accountable and protect female children that are being victimized online.

For these reasons, MLAW strongly urges the passage of SB113.

MLAW 2024 Supporting Organizations

The following organizations have signed on in support of our 2024 Legislative Agenda*:

1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East
AAUW Anne Arundel County
AAUW Garrett Branch
AAUW Kensington-Rockville Branch
AAUW Maryland
Adolescent Single Parent Program (PGCPS)
Anne Arundel County NOW
Baltimore County Commission for Women
Black Women for Positive Change, Baltimore Chapter
Bound for Better, Advocates for Domestic Violence
Child Justice, Inc.
Church Women United, Inc.
Climate XChange Maryland
Court Watch Montgomery
CTLDomGroup Inc
DABS Consulting, LLC
Engage Mountain Maryland
Frederick County Commission For Women
If/When/How at University of Baltimore School of Law
Les Etoiles in Haiti
Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Maryland Legislative Coalition
Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence
Miller Partnership Consultants
MomsRising
Montgomery County NOW
National Organization for Women, Maryland Chapter
Prince George's County Public Schools
Rebuild, Overcome, and Rise (ROAR) Center at University of MD, Baltimore
REHarrington Plumbing and Heating
Reproductive Justice Maryland
Stella's Girls
The Hackerman Foundation
Top Ladies of Distinction Prince George's County
TurnAround Inc.
Women's Equity Center and Action Network (WE CAN)
Women's Law Center of Maryland
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporate - Alpha Zeta Chapter
Zonta Club of Annapolis

**sign-ons as of 1/23/24*

Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women

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