

HB0803_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
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TESTIMONY ON CROSSOVER BILL HB#0803 - POSITION: FAVORABLE

Criminal Law - Revenge Porn - Computer-Generated Visual Representation

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 HB0803 - Criminal Law - Revenge Porn - Computer-Generated Visual Representation

This bill acknowledges the harm created by the use of advanced technology to seek revenge on intimate partners. The Boston University School of Law has declared in an article titled *Revenge Porn and Deep Fake Technology: The Latest Iteration of Online Abuse*:

“What began as sharing consensually obtained images beyond their intended viewers has evolved into more insidious and complex crimes. [Hackers](#) have started accessing private devices to steal intimate photos for the purpose of blackmailing victims with the threat of sharing those photos online. And the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has created a new type of revenge porn: deep fakes.”¹

This bill is an attempt to make the laws in Maryland respond to this new technology in ways that will protect against victimization through its utilization. The Guardian, in an opinion piece published on March 13, 2023, declared:

“The rapid increase in the number and availability of nonconsensual deepfake porn videos raises alarming questions about privacy and consent in the digital future. How will the huge numbers of women – and the smaller, but significant, numbers of men – who are affected by this new AI-enabled revenge porn manage their reputations and lives? As the technology improves, how will viewers know the difference between fact and AI-generated fiction? How can nonconsensual material be removed when the internet moves so much faster than regulation?”²

The laws must respond to this crisis. **I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB0803.**

¹ <https://sites.bu.edu/dome/2023/08/10/revenge-porn-and-deep-fake-technology-the-latest-iteration-of-online-abuse/L>

² <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2023/mar/13/deepfake-pornography-explosion>