



### Domestic Violence Legal Clinic

2201 Argonne Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21218

(410) 554-8463 • Fax: (410) 243-3014 • [www.hruth.org](http://www.hruth.org) • [dhausner@hruthmd.org](mailto:dhausner@hruthmd.org)

Bill No.: House Bill 663  
Bill Title: Revenge Porn and Deep Fakes – Civil Remedies and Criminal Law  
Committee: Judiciary  
Hearing Date: February 19, 2025  
Position: **FAV**

House of Ruth is a non-profit organization providing shelter, counseling, and legal services to victims of domestic violence throughout the State of Maryland. House of Ruth has offices in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Prince George's County, and Montgomery County. House Bill 663 would create a civil cause of action against those who distribute "deep fake" intimate images of another without their consent and amend the current revenge porn statute to add computer-generated images. **We urge the House Judiciary Committee to favorably report on House Bill 663.**

Revenge porn is an insidious act that can have devastating consequences for its victims, including victims of intimate partner violence whose abusive partners may use revenge porn as a means of intimidation and control. With the rise of artificial intelligence, it has become all too easy for perpetrators to create and disseminate sexually explicit images even when they do not have actual photographs or videos of their victims. Computer-generated sexual imagery has the same devastating impact on victims as genuine images. House Bill 663 would expand the revenge porn statute to include computer-generated visual representations, thereby offering greater remedies to victims of these heinous acts. HB 663 would also provide victims with the ability to seek civil punitive damages for nonconsensual distribution of intimate deep fake images.

It is House of Ruth's understanding that House Bill 663 is similar to other bills that are before the General Assembly this year and urges the Committee to create both civil and criminal remedies using whatever methods it deems appropriate. There may be friendly amendments to this end and we encourage the Committee to consider them.

**The House of Ruth urges the House Judiciary Committee to report favorably on House Bill 663.**