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**WOMEN LEGISLATORS OF MARYLAND**  
**THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

March 6, 2025

To: Delegate Luke Clippinger, Chair  
Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett, Vice Chair  
Judiciary Committee

On behalf of the Maryland Women's Caucus, we are pleased to express our strong support for **HB1248: Revenge Pornography and Intimate Visual Depictions - Prohibition and Removal**. This critical legislation strengthens protections for Maryland women by ensuring that non-consensual intimate images are swiftly removed from online platforms and that those responsible for distributing such content are held accountable.

The rise of digital abuse and image-based sexual exploitation has disproportionately impacted women, often leading to severe emotional, professional, and even physical harm. When private images are shared without consent, the victims experience humiliation, harassment, and in many cases, threats to their safety. Survivors of this abuse frequently report job loss, mental health struggles, and difficulties rebuilding their lives after their privacy has been violated. Unfortunately, current legal protections are insufficient in addressing the rapid spread of such images and the devastating consequences for victims.

HB1248 takes a necessary step in addressing this issue by requiring online platforms with over 100,000 unique monthly U.S. users to establish a process for individuals to request the removal of non-consensual intimate images. Additionally, this legislation strengthens Maryland's revenge pornography laws by explicitly prohibiting the distribution of intimate visual depictions without consent, regardless of intent. This closes dangerous loopholes that allow abusers to evade accountability. As technology advances, so do the methods of exploitation, making it essential for Maryland's laws to evolve in response.

Women should not have to live in fear that their most intimate moments will be weaponized against them. HB1248 provides crucial protections that help prevent digital abuse, hold perpetrators accountable, and empower victims with swift pathways to justice. By passing this legislation, Maryland will set a strong precedent in safeguarding privacy and dignity in the digital age.

For these reasons, the Maryland Women's Caucus strongly urges the Judiciary Committee to issue a favorable report for HB1248. Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your commitment to protecting Maryland women and ensuring a safer, more just society.