



March 4, 2026

The Honorable J. Sandy Bartlett
Chair, Judiciary Committee
100 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**HB0924: Child Exploitation Material – Civil and Criminal Actions
(Safe Kids Act)
House Judiciary Committee**

Position: Favorable

Dear Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis, and Committee members:

On behalf of the Maryland Children’s Alliance (“MCA”), a non-profit and Maryland statewide convener and educational resource for all of Maryland’s 24 Child Advocacy Centers (“CACs”), I write to you today to request **a favorable report on HB0924 - *Child Exploitation Material – Civil and Criminal Actions (Safe Kids Act)***.

This bill takes important steps to protect children by ensuring that any online platform that is knowingly allowing child exploitation materials to be distributed or shared can be held accountable under the law. This is critical in providing the Attorney General’s office, law enforcement, and other entities with the tools needed to keep individuals and companies/platforms from hiding behind the anonymity of online victimization.

HB0924 also adds the definition of “computer-generated image” to include images created through the use of artificial intelligence software as the term pertains to provisions of law related to child sexual abuse materials. There is often the misperception that AI-generated child sexual abuse materials is a “victimless” alternative to photos of known children. However, when artificial intelligence is used to create the image of a child, it must pull from an existing pool of online images. Therefore, although the final product may not represent any one child, AI would pull from existing images of children, and many *actual* children’s images would be used. Thus, creating AI-generated child sexual abuse material is not a victimless act.

It is for these reasons that Maryland Children’s Alliance **urges a favorable report on HB0924 - *Child Exploitation Material – Civil and Criminal Actions (Safe Kids Act)***.

Sincerely,

Wendy G. Myers

Executive Director, Maryland Children’s Alliance