

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5090

To amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to expand prohibitions against the wrongful broadcast, distribution, or publication of intimate visual images, including digital forgeries, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

Ms. MACE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to expand prohibitions against the wrongful broadcast, distribution, or publication of intimate visual images, including digital forgeries, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Halting Online Non-
5 consensual Offenses in the Ranks Act” or the “HONOR
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO OFFENSE OF WRONGFUL**
2 **BROADCAST OR DISTRIBUTION OF INTIMATE**
3 **VISUAL IMAGES UNDER THE UNIFORM CODE**
4 **OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

5 Section 917a of title 10, united states code (article
6 117a of the uniform code of military justice) is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 **“§ 917a. Art. 117a. Wrongful broadcast, distribution,**
9 **or publication of intimate visual images**

10 “(a) PROHIBITION.—Any person subject to this chap-
11 ter—

12 “(1) who knowingly broadcasts, distributes, or
13 uses a communication service to publish an authen-
14 tic intimate visual depiction of an identifiable indi-
15 vidual who is not a minor if—

16 “(A) the intimate visual depiction was ob-
17 tained or created under circumstances in which
18 the person knew or reasonably should have
19 known the identifiable individual had a reason-
20 able expectation of privacy;

21 “(B) the authentic intimate visual depic-
22 tion was broadcast, distributed, or published
23 without the consent of the identifiable indi-
24 vidual;

1 “(C) what is depicted was not voluntarily
2 exposed by the identifiable individual in a public
3 or commercial setting;

4 “(D) what is depicted is not a matter of
5 public concern; and

6 “(E) the broadcast, distribution, or publi-
7 cation of the intimate visual depiction—

8 “(i) is intended to cause harm; or

9 “(ii) causes harm, including psycho-
10 logical, financial, or reputational harm, to
11 the identifiable individual;

12 “(2) who knowingly broadcasts, distributes, or
13 uses a communication service to publish an authen-
14 tic intimate visual depiction of an identifiable indi-
15 vidual who is a minor with intent to—

16 “(A) abuse, humiliate, harass, or degrade
17 the minor; or

18 “(B) arouse or gratify the sexual desire of
19 any person;

20 “(3) who knowingly broadcasts, distributes, or
21 uses a communication service to publish a digital
22 forgery of an identifiable individual who is not a
23 minor if—

1 “(A) the digital forgery was broadcast, dis-
2 tributed, or published without the consent of
3 the identifiable individual;

4 “(B) what is depicted was not voluntarily
5 exposed by the identifiable individual in a public
6 or commercial setting;

7 “(C) what is depicted is not a matter of
8 public concern; and

9 “(D) the broadcast, distribution, or publi-
10 cation of the digital forgery—

11 “(i) is intended to cause harm; or

12 “(ii) causes harm, including psycho-
13 logical, financial, or reputational harm, to
14 the identifiable individual; or

15 “(4) who knowingly broadcasts, distributes, or
16 uses a communication service to publish a digital
17 forgery of an identifiable individual who is a minor
18 with intent to—

19 “(A) abuse, humiliate, harass, or degrade
20 the minor; or

21 “(B) arouse or gratify the sexual desire of
22 any person,

23 is guilty of wrongful distribution of intimate visual
24 images or visual images of sexually explicit conduct
25 and shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.

1 “(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply
2 to—

3 “(1) a lawfully authorized investigative, protec-
4 tive, or intelligence activity of—

5 “(A) a law enforcement agency of the
6 United States, a State, or a political subdivision
7 of a State; or

8 “(B) an intelligence agency of the United
9 States;

10 “(2) a disclosure made reasonably and in good
11 faith—

12 “(A) to a law enforcement officer or agen-
13 cy;

14 “(B) as part of a document production or
15 filing associated with a legal proceeding;

16 “(C) as part of medical education, diag-
17 nosis, or treatment or for a legitimate medical,
18 scientific, or educational purpose;

19 “(D) in the reporting of unlawful content
20 or unsolicited or unwelcome conduct or in pur-
21 suance of a legal, professional, or other lawful
22 obligation; or

23 “(E) to seek support or help with respect
24 to the receipt of an unsolicited intimate visual
25 depiction;

1 “(3) a disclosure reasonably intended to assist
2 the identifiable individual; or

3 “(4) a person who possesses or publishes an in-
4 timate visual depiction of himself or herself engaged
5 in nudity or sexually explicit conduct.

6 “(c) CONSENT.—For the purposes of subsection
7 (a)—

8 “(1) the fact that the depicted individual con-
9 sented to the creation of the intimate visual depic-
10 tion shall not establish that the person consented to
11 its disclosure; and

12 “(2) the fact that the depicted individual dis-
13 closed the intimate visual depiction to another per-
14 son shall not establish that the depicted individual
15 consented to the further disclosure of the intimate
16 visual depiction.

17 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 “(1) CONSENT.—The term ‘consent’ means an
19 affirmative, conscious, and voluntary authorization
20 made by an individual free from force, fraud, duress,
21 misrepresentation, or coercion.

22 “(2) DIGITAL FORGERY.—The term ‘digital for-
23 gery’ means any intimate visual depiction of an iden-
24 tifiable individual created through the use of soft-
25 ware, machine learning, artificial intelligence, or any

1 other computer-generated or technological means, in-
2 cluding by adapting, modifying, manipulating, or al-
3 tering an authentic visual depiction, that, when
4 viewed as a whole by a reasonable person, is indis-
5 tinguishable from an authentic visual depiction of
6 the individual.

7 “(3) IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term
8 ‘identifiable individual’ means an individual—

9 “(A) who appears in whole or in part in an
10 intimate visual depiction; and

11 “(B) whose face, likeness, or other distin-
12 guishing characteristic (including a unique
13 birthmark or other recognizable feature) is dis-
14 played in connection with such intimate visual
15 depiction.

16 “(4) VISUAL DEPICTION.—The term ‘visual de-
17 piction’ includes undeveloped film and videotape,
18 data stored on computer disk or by electronic means
19 which is capable of conversion into a visual image,
20 and data which is capable of conversion into a visual
21 image that has been transmitted by any means,
22 whether or not stored in a permanent format.

23 “(5) INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTION.—The term
24 ‘intimate visual depiction’—

1 “(A) means a visual depiction that de-
2 picts—

3 “(i) the uncovered genitals, pubic
4 area, anus, or female nipple of an identifi-
5 able individual; or

6 “(ii) the display or transfer of bodily
7 sexual fluids—

8 “(I) on to any part of the body
9 of an identifiable individual;

10 “(II) from the body of an identi-
11 fiable individual; or

12 “(iii) an identifiable individual engag-
13 ing in sexually explicit conduct; and

14 “(B) includes any visual depictions de-
15 scribed in subparagraph (A) produced while the
16 identifiable individual was in a public place only
17 if the individual did not—

18 “(i) voluntarily display the content de-
19 picted; or

20 “(ii) consent to the sexual conduct de-
21 picted.

22 “(6) SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONDUCT.—The term
23 ‘sexually explicit conduct’ means actual or simu-
24 lated—

1 “(A) sexual intercourse, including genital-
2 genital, oral-genital, anal-genital, or oral-anal,
3 whether between persons of the same or oppo-
4 site sex;

5 “(B) bestiality;

6 “(C) masturbation;

7 “(D) sadistic or masochistic abuse; or

8 “(E) lascivious exhibition of the genitals or
9 pubic area of any person.

10 “(7) MINOR.—The term ‘minor’ means any in-
11 dividual under the age of 18 years.

12 “(8) BROADCAST.—The term ‘broadcast’ means
13 to electronically transmit a visual image with the in-
14 tent that it be viewed by a person or persons.

15 “(9) DISTRIBUTE.—The term ‘distribute’
16 means to deliver to the actual or constructive posses-
17 sion of another person, including transmission by
18 mail or electronic means.

19 “(10) COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE.—The term
20 ‘communications service’ means—

21 “(A) a service provided by a person that is
22 a common carrier;

23 “(B) an electronic communication service;

24 “(C) an information service; or

25 “(D) an interactive computer service.

1 “(11) COMMON CARRIER.—The term ‘common
2 carrier’ means any person engaged as a common
3 carrier for hire, in interstate or foreign communica-
4 tion by wire or radio or interstate or foreign radio
5 transmission of energy, but a person engaged in
6 radio broadcasting shall not, insofar as such person
7 is so engaged, be deemed a common carrier.

8 “(12) ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SERV-
9 ICE.—The term ‘electronic communication service’
10 means any service which provides to users thereof
11 the ability to send or receive wire or electronic com-
12 munications.

13 “(13) INFORMATION SERVICE.—The term ‘in-
14 formation service’ means the offering of a capability
15 for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming,
16 processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available
17 information via telecommunications, and includes
18 electronic publishing, but does not include any use
19 of any such capability for the management, control,
20 or operation of a telecommunications system or the
21 management of a telecommunications service.

22 “(14) INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—The
23 term ‘interactive computer service’ means any infor-
24 mation service, system, or access software provider
25 that provides or enables computer access by multiple

1 users to a computer server, including specifically a
2 service or system that provides access to the Inter-
3 net and such systems operated or services offered by
4 libraries or educational institutions.”.

