
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5421

AN ACT CONCERNING UNLAWFUL DISSEMINATION OF INTIMATE IMAGES THAT ARE DIGITALLY ALTERED OR CREATED THROUGH THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SUMMARY

This bill makes it a crime, under certain conditions, to intentionally disseminate an intimate image that closely resembles a living, identifiable person's likeness if the image was digitally altered or created through artificial intelligence (AI). The bill does so by specifying that the dissemination of these images is included within the existing crime of unlawful dissemination of an intimate image.

By law, someone is guilty of this crime when the person intentionally disseminates an intimate image (including video) without the other person's consent, knowing that the other person believed the image would not be disseminated, and the other person suffers harm because of this. This crime applies to images of a person in certain degrees of nudity or engaged in sexual intercourse. It does not apply in certain circumstances, such as if the image resulted from voluntary exposure in public.

By law, this crime is a (1) class A misdemeanor (punishable by up to 364 days in prison, a fine of up to \$2,000, or both), or (2) class D felony (punishable by up to five years in prison, a fine of up to \$5,000, or both) if the unlawful distribution is to multiple people by means of an interactive computer service, an information service, or a telecommunications service.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2024

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

sSB 2 (File 188), § 17, reported favorably by the General Law Committee, establishes a new crime of unlawful dissemination of a synthetic intimate image, with similar elements and the same penalties as this bill.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 36 Nay 0 (03/28/2024)