

Judiciary Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: HB-5312 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CIVIL ACTION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND A PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION FOR VICTIMS OF UNLAWFUL DISSEMINATION OF A SYNTHETICALLY CREATED INTIMATE

Title: IMAGE.

Vote Date: 3/23/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 3/2/2026

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Judiciary Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill creates both a private right of action and a civil action for the Office of the Attorney General when a platform fails to take down synthetically created intimate images when they knew or should have known those images weren't taken down on their platform.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:

The substitute language changes the structure of the bill by replacing references to specific statutory violations with a standalone civil framework. It articulates the prohibited conduct and rather than tying liability to violations of existing statutes, it provides detailed definitions to guide its application.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

William Tong, Attorney General of Connecticut: He testified in support because HB 5312 establishes a civil enforcement mechanism and a private right of action for victims of unlawful dissemination of synthetically created intimate images. He states that current criminal law does not provide sufficient remedies for victims and that the bill enables the state and individuals to seek injunctions, damages, and penalties against those responsible, including platforms that continue to distribute such content. He emphasizes that the bill strengthens accountability and provides tools to deter and address harm caused by synthetic intimate images.

Judicial Branch: They expressed concerns, stating that the bill contains unclear language regarding procedures for protecting a plaintiff's identity and court processes. They note that existing court rules already govern sealing records and use of pseudonyms, and request clarification on whether the bill aligns with or creates new procedures. The Judicial Branch also recommends technical revisions to clarify language related to attorney's fees and the statute of limitations.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Anna P. Lucey, Executive Vice President, New England Connectivity and Telecommunications Association (NECTA): She testified in support with concerns because HB 5312 aims to protect victims of non-consensual dissemination of synthetic intimate images, but as drafted would impose unworkable liability on internet service providers (ISPs). She states that ISPs do not control, monitor, or have the technical ability to identify or block such content, particularly due to encryption and privacy limitations. She emphasizes that compliance would require intrusive surveillance and capabilities that do not exist and contradict longstanding policy. She urges the Committee to amend the bill to exclude ISPs and instead focus liability on content creators, uploaders, and platforms.

Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association (CTLA): It testified in support because HB 5312 creates a private right of action for victims of unlawful dissemination of synthetically created intimate images and provides enforcement authority to the Attorney General. It states that current criminal law does not provide victims with direct relief and that the bill allows individuals to seek damages and injunctive relief. CTLA also notes that the bill establishes liability for platforms that knowingly allow such content and strengthens enforcement to deter continued dissemination.

Anonymous 37 and 38: Two pieces of testimony were submitted without attribution in support of HB 5312 because it would help protect children.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Jake Lestock, CTIA: He testified in opposition because HB 5312 would impose liability on wireless and broadband providers that do not create, control, or have the ability to monitor the content transmitted over their networks. He states that the bill creates technically infeasible requirements, exposes providers to litigation, and places responsibility on intermediaries rather than the individuals who create and distribute harmful content. He urges that liability be directed at bad actors instead of service providers.

Reported by: Trevor Ellis

Date: March 26, 2026