

HOUSE BILL 99

E1

(PRE-FILED)

4r1180
CF SB 113

By: **Delegate Bartlett**

Requested: October 26, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Sexual Solicitation of a Minor Through Child Pornography –**
3 **Prohibition**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting an individual from knowingly and with a certain intent
5 soliciting a minor or law enforcement officer posing as a minor to engage in certain
6 prohibited sexual acts with the minor by a certain means; and generally relating to
7 sexual solicitation of a minor.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Criminal Law
10 Section 3–324
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Criminal Law
15 Section 11–207(a)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Criminal Law

20 3–324.

22 (a) In this section, “solicit” means to command, authorize, urge, entice, request,
23 or advise a person by any means, including:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (1) in person;
- 2 (2) through an agent or agency;
- 3 (3) over the telephone;
- 4 (4) through any print medium;
- 5 (5) by mail;
- 6 (6) by computer or Internet; or
- 7 (7) by any other electronic means.

8 (b) (1) A person may not, with the intent to commit a violation of § 3–304 or §
9 3–307 of this subtitle or **§ 11–207**, § 11–303, § 11–304, § 11–305, § 11–306, or § 11–307 of
10 this article, knowingly solicit a minor, or a law enforcement officer posing as a minor, to
11 engage in activities that would be unlawful for the person to engage in under § 3–304 or §
12 3–307 of this subtitle or **§ 11–207**, § 11–303, § 11–304, § 11–305, § 11–306, or § 11–307 of
13 this article.

14 (2) A person may not, with the intent to commit a violation of § 3–304 or §
15 3–307 of this subtitle or **§ 11–207**, § 11–303, § 11–304, § 11–305, § 11–306, or § 11–307 of
16 this article, knowingly solicit the consent of a parent, guardian, or custodian of a minor, or
17 a law enforcement officer posing as a parent, guardian, or custodian of a minor, to engage
18 in activities with the minor that would be unlawful for the person to engage in under §
19 3–304 or § 3–307 of this subtitle or **§ 11–207**, § 11–303, § 11–304, § 11–305, § 11–306, or §
20 11–307 of this article.

21 (c) A violation of this section is considered to be committed in the State for
22 purposes of determining jurisdiction if the solicitation:

- 23 (1) originated in the State; or
- 24 (2) is received in the State.

25 (d) A person who violates this section is guilty of a felony and on conviction is
26 subject to:

- 27 (1) for a first offense, imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not
28 exceeding \$25,000 or both; and
- 29 (2) for a second or subsequent offense, imprisonment not exceeding 20
30 years or a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or both.

31 11–207.

1 (a) A person may not:

2 (1) cause, induce, solicit, or knowingly allow a minor to engage as a subject
3 in the production of obscene matter or a visual representation or performance that depicts
4 a minor engaged as a subject in sadomasochistic abuse or sexual conduct;

5 (2) photograph or film a minor engaging in an obscene act, sadomasochistic
6 abuse, or sexual conduct;

7 (3) use a computer to depict or describe a minor engaging in an obscene act,
8 sadomasochistic abuse, or sexual conduct;

9 (4) knowingly promote, advertise, solicit, distribute, or possess with the
10 intent to distribute any matter, visual representation, or performance:

11 (i) that depicts a minor engaged as a subject in sadomasochistic
12 abuse or sexual conduct; or

13 (ii) in a manner that reflects the belief, or that is intended to cause
14 another to believe, that the matter, visual representation, or performance depicts a minor
15 engaged as a subject of sadomasochistic abuse or sexual conduct; or

16 (5) use a computer to knowingly compile, enter, transmit, make, print,
17 publish, reproduce, cause, allow, buy, sell, receive, exchange, or disseminate any notice,
18 statement, advertisement, or minor's name, telephone number, place of residence, physical
19 characteristics, or other descriptive or identifying information for the purpose of engaging
20 in, facilitating, encouraging, offering, or soliciting unlawful sadomasochistic abuse or
21 sexual conduct of or with a minor.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 2024.