



Councilmember At-Large Christina Henderson, the introducer of a new bill targeted towards cyber crime reform /Christina Henderson Press

The Fight Against Unregulated A.I

What Local Legislation is Doing to Protect D.C.

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Washington, D.C. -- Councilmember Christina Henderson (I-At-Large) has introduced a bill that could create new criminal charges for AI-generated non-consensual intimate material, or AIG-NCII. This bill comes in response to the concern expressed by Internet users globally as AI becomes more powerful, knowledgeable, and widespread, with minimal repercussions for what is created and shared.

The AIG-NCII bill, formally named The Distribution of False Sexual Imagery Prohibition Amendment Act of 2025, was introduced on December 01, 2025 and is currently still in committee; it was co-introduced by six council members in total under the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

"Councilmember Henderson was the first Councilmember interested in the legislation—especially due to recent events surrounding Twitter’s 'Grok' illustrating the importance of

criminal penalties for related offenses." Henderson's communication team told LMD Studios.

In January 2026, Elon Musk was forced to constrain and refactor Grok AI on X in response to global bans and public outrage after producing record numbers of nonconsensual sexual content.

[According to a study made by the Center for Countering Digital Hate \(CCDH\)](#), "Grok produced an estimated 3 million sexualized images including 23,000 of children." This also caused countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines to ban the chatbot entirely halfway through the month.

Current D.C. legislation has codes and laws to combat the nonconsensual distribution of sexual material, but none specifically targeted towards material generated by AI. [The introduction of the AIG-NCII bill](#) acknowledges that "D.C. Code §§ 22-3052-54 prohibit[s] the unauthorized sharing of authentic sexual images, videos, and recordings. The statute does not directly address AI-generated depictions or manipulated images that were initially non-sexual but were edited to include nudity or sexual conduct."

The AIG-NCII bill itself would amend the [Criminalization of Non-Consensual Pornography Act of 2014](#). This explicitly creates a misdemeanor criminal offense and new felony criminal offense for the nonconsensual distribution of sexual material specifically created with artificial intelligence or other digital technology. For the most severe offenses, that can mean up to 2 years imprisonment or [fines up to \\$12,500](#).

At present, victims of cyber sexual assault are able to reach out to organizations such as the Cyber Civil Rights Initiative (CCRI), a national nonprofit organization dedicated to defending and preserving digital civil rights. A representative from the organization spoke on how CCRI helps victims and others affected by AIG-NCII, and wished to remain anonymous.

"Victims are able to reach out to us and work with us to get this kind of material taken down," the representative explained.

"However, everyone responds differently to that kind of situation. They may not want to escalate things too quickly or face repercussions themselves, so they may not reach out at all."

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Studies have been conducted to gauge public opinion regarding AIG-NCII and researches found that people broadly oppose it, with the sharpest opposition being towards sexual content; 89.54% of respondents rated creation of synthetic media as somewhat or totally unacceptable across all scenarios, while none of the respondents rated non-consensual synthetic intimate media creation as "totally acceptable". However, some of the participants were able to acknowledge that content created by artificial intelligence is a form of expression, and it's possible to feel as though there are no proper actions to take against it. "I can't stop them from fantasizing about me in their own head. I can't stop them from writing down their fantasies on



Representatives of Cyber Civil Rights Initiative teaching about what to do in situations where rights are infringed /Twitter

paper or drawing a picture," noted Participant 188.

The AIG-NCII bill brings out a question of whether or not legislation can regulate content created on and spread across the Internet, and if doing so would infringe on users' freedom of speech in the United States. The American Civil Liberties Union of the District of Columbia (ACLU DC) is a local affiliate of the ACLU that works to protect and expand civil liberties and civil rights for residents and visitors of Washington, D.C.

When asked to comment on the current state of civil rights and the AIG-NCII bill potentially affecting them, ACLU DC declined to comment.

Henderson is not the only person to strive for cyber civil rights in a legislative context. As told by the bill's introduction, "Congress recently passed, and the President signed, the Take it Down Act, establishing federal criminal penalties for the nonconsensual online publication of sexually explicit media, whether depicting real people or AI-generated." On a federal level the distribution of AIG-NCII has been criminalized, but the bill asserts that it's purpose is to "better align District of Columbia law with the federal standard and [demonstrate] the urgent need for comprehensive protections at all levels of government."

"Councilmember Henderson saw the value in this legislation also in providing justice to victims of these crimes. With the federal government also having recognized the urgency of this issue through the 'Take it Down Act' this legislation is more than timely in combatting the dangers posed to residents by distribution of false sexual imagery," Henderson's communications team concluded.