

# Making a Difference

The quarterly newsletter of the MARYLAND COALITION  
AGAINST PORNOGRAPHY, Inc.

[www.mcap1.com](http://www.mcap1.com) or [en español](#)



Hotline: 301-439-8475

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## What the Maryland General Assembly is considering in 2025

Another busy legislative season in Annapolis is upon us!

We are most excited about the pending bill MCAP asked to be sponsored, the [Safer Devices for Kids Act, HB 1212](#). THANK YOU Delegate Susan McComas for reintroducing it, in an improved model form from last year, and to the 2 national organizations, NCOSE (the National Center On Sexual Exploitation) and PYE (Protect Young Eyes), who carefully crafted it so that it will pass constitutional muster and have a minimal impact on the free speech rights of adults. Its hearing will be on Feb. 25, which means anyone wishing to submit written comments or oral testimony must sign up by Feb. 21.

Testifying is one of the most powerful ways you can influence the legislature. If you want to testify on any of these bills, be sure to sign up by the time on the chart below. You can also consult the House and Senate policies for the testimony deadlines. Witness sign-up will be open online from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through the Maryland General Assembly website two business days before the bill hearing. You need to create a "MyMGA" account. Click [here](#) for a tutorial, and scroll down for the video on "Witness signup." Note, the website does not support Internet Explorer. Please use another web browser.

MCAP already has testified and provided comments, or soon will be, on several other bills: Click on the blue bill numbers to see fuller descriptions of the bills and links to the full texts:

Bills in the [House Judiciary Committee](#) – these are the members of that committee. You could copy and paste this list into the "To:" field of an email.

Delegate Lauren Arian <lauren.arian@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Sandy Bartlett <sandy.bartlett@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Christopher Bouchat <christopher.bouchat@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Jon Cardin <jon.cardin@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Lucas Clippinger <luke.clippinger@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Frank Conaway <frank.conaway@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Elizabeth Embry <elizabeth.embry@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Robin Grammer <Robin.Grammer@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Aaron Kaufman <aaron.kaufman@house.state.md.us>, Delegate David Moon <David.Moon@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Rachel Munoz <rachel.munoz@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Cheryl Pasteur <cheryl.pasteur@house.state.md.us>, "Delegate N.Scott Phillips" <n.scott.phillips@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes <Sheree.Sample.Hughes@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Stuart Schmidt <stuart.schmidt@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Gary Simmons <gary.simmons@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Karen Simpson <karen.simpson@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Kym Taylor <kym.taylor@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Karen Toles <karen.toles@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Chris Tomlinson <chris.tomlinson@house.state.md.us>, Delegate William Valentine <william.valentine@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Nicole Williams <nicole.williams@house.state.md.us>

[HB 5](#), sponsor: Wilson, subject: AI-created images of CSAM (child porn)

[HB 394](#), sponsor: Grammer et al Age verification requirement for XXX websites

[HB 364\\*](#), sponsor: Simpson Stiffer penalties on criminals with large amounts of CSAM and on those depicting children under the age of 13

[HB 670](#), sponsor: Lopez, unsolicited transmission of obscene material **Hearing will be Feb. 19, 1 pm.**

Bills in the [House Economic Matters Committee](#) – [HB 1212](#), sponsor: McComas. see above. Safer Devices for Kids Act. **The bill MCAP most strongly supports!** Hearing will be Feb,25.

*Please email these members:*

Delegate Christopher Adams <christopher.adams@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Marion Amprey <marlon.amprey@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Steven Arentz <steven.arentz@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Adrian Boafó <adrian.boafó@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Lorig Charkoudian <lorig.charkoudian@house.state.md.us>, "Del. Brian Crosby" <brian.crosby@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Diana Fennell <Diana.Fennell@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Mark Fisher <mark.fisher@house.state.md.us>, David Fraser-Hidalgo <david.fraser.hidalgo@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Andrea Harrison <andrea.fletcher.harrison@house.state.md.us>, Seth Howard <Seth.Howard@house.state.md.us>, Andre Johnson <andre.johnson@house.state.md.us>, Jesse Pippy <jesse.pippy@house.state.md.us>, Andrew Pruski <andrew.pruski@house.state.md.us>, Delegate Lily Qi <lily.qi@house.state.md.us>, Pam Queen <pam.queen@house.state.md.us>, Mike Rogers <mike.rogers@house.state.md.us>, April Rose <April.Rose@house.state.md.us>, Veronica Turner <veronica.turner@house.state.md.us>, Kris Valderrama <kris.valderrama@house.state.md.us>, "C.T. Wilson" <ct.wilson@house.state.md.us>, William Wivell <william.wivell@house.state.md.us>,

Bills in the [House Ways & Means Committee](#)

HB 282, sponsor: Mangione –prohibition of sexually explicit materials in public schools

Bills in the [Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee](#) members:

Nick Charles <nick.charles@senate.state.md.us>, Senator William Folden <william.folden@senate.state.md.us>, Shaneka Henson <shaneka.henson@senate.state.md.us>, Mary Dulaney James <marydulany.james@senate.state.md.us>, Sara Love <sara.love@senate.state.md.us>, Senator Mike McKay <mike.mckay@senate.state.md.us>, Senator Anthony Muse <anthony.muse@senate.state.md.us>, Senator Will Smith <will.smith@senate.state.md.us>, Senator Charles Sydnor <charles.sydnor@senate.state.md.us>, Senator Jeffrey Waldstreicher <jeff.waldstreicher@senate.state.md.us>, Senator Chris West <chris.west@senate.state.md.us>,- -

[SB 360](#), sponsor: Hester, revenge porn - computer-generated images of a sexual or intimate nature that are indistinguishable from actual visual representations of the person

\*[SB 545](#), sponsor: James (cross-filed with HB 364)...stiffer penalties...

For a list of all bills we are monitoring and actions to take, see <https://www.protect-maryland-kids.com/legislation>



**Tis the Season on Valentine's Day and Love, and for some, Lent is about to start**

So it seems appropriate to speak of some resources that could help those who are seeking improvement in relationships, fidelity, and self-sacrifice or self-control over unhealthy sexual inclinations. Pure Desire Ministries International has free downloadable [ebooks](#) including "5 Steps to Freedom from Porn" with a spiritual approach. For a discussion of helpful apps in quitting porn, see <https://www.addictionhelp.com/porn/apps/> and see [MCAP's list of recommended books and links](#).

You may want to consider, or know someone who could benefit from the Maryland-based “COME TO THE TABLE MINISTRY” conferences in 2025, particularly this one coming next month on intimacy. Tom and Michele Weaver, in Mechanicsville, MD, are both certified in Sex Addiction Recovery, Partners Recovery, Partner Betrayal Trauma, and Intimacy Anorexia through the American Association of Sex Addiction Therapy (AASAT). They work with groups, individual life coaching, and consulting. Much more info is available on their website: <https://www.tableministry.com/>

**A BRIDGE TO INTIMACY:**  
*Hope & Healing*  
**AFTER BETRAYAL**  
A CONFERENCE FOR  
SINGLES AND COUPLES

*Featuring*

**DR. BARBARA STEFFENS**  
Speaker

**DR. JAKE PORTER**  
Speaker

*Dates* **MARCH 28-29 2025**  
CONFERENCE STARTS EARLY  
AFTERNOON ON THE 28TH

*Location* **FAITH BIBLE CHURCH**  
**MECHANICSVILLE, MD**

*Register*

Contact Us  
443-752-2795  
tom@tableministry.com

Visit Our Website  
tableministry.com

Featured presenters are leaders in the field, Dr. Barbara Steffens and Dr. Jake Porter.

See <https://www.drbarbarasteffens.com/> and <https://go.drjakeporter.com>

Attendees will hear great speakers and experience practical advice on living the Christian life - everything needed for spiritual growth in this subject area. Attendees have the opportunity to connect with others from across the country who are grappling with addiction and sexual brokenness, coming together to seek help and healing.

Two more 2025 conferences are also coming.

### Safer Internet Day – February 11, 2025

In recognition of the annual observance of this day, we want to mention this helpful resource:

**"Safety Settings for Popular Social Media Apps"** Quick Guide from the Enough is Enough organization. The apps discussed in this 2-page publication are: Discord, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, WhatsApp, X (Twitter), and YouTube

### Maryland Kids Code going into effect

A new Maryland law that is taking effect this year is the “Maryland Kids Code” affecting internet safety and privacy rights. It requires new social media accounts to be set to private as a default. It would also implement strategies to prevent strangers from contacting children online. For more details, see: <https://bethesdamagazine.com/2024/10/02/maryland-kids-code-internet-safety-policy-becomes-law/>.

## ACTION BOX

- ❖ Contact Md. Legislators about pending bills [see article].
- ❖ MCAP is in great need of board members and administrative help, e.g. newsletter editing, legislative, graphic design, fundraising and social media outreach! **Please** email [mcapinc@mcap1.com](mailto:mcapinc@mcap1.com) if you wish to serve. Monthly Zoom meetings are easy to attend, usually on a Wed. evening. If we do not soon see more volunteers, we may need to significantly curtail our activities.
- ❖ Could your child's school use a speaker to talk about Internet dangers? Contact Officer [Joe Dugan](mailto:joseph.dugan@maryland.gov) at [joseph.dugan@maryland.gov](mailto:joseph.dugan@maryland.gov). Another nationally renowned speaker, [Chris McKenna of the Protect Young Eyes](#) organization is someone MCAP would like to engage. Email us at [mcapinc@mcap1.com](mailto:mcapinc@mcap1.com) if interested.
- ❖ Concerned enough to protest sexualized materials that have been found in local county public school libraries and curricula? See the "Take Back the Classroom" resources from [Capitol Resource Institute](https://www.capitolresource.org/). <https://www.capitolresource.org/>
- ❖ Consider attending or inviting others to attend the "Bridge to Intimacy" conference, March 28-29 [see article].
- ❖ We are so grateful to those of you willing to subscribe and join MCAP for \$15 annually. [Paypal](#) or, with no fee, use [Zeffy at www.protect-maryland-kids.com/donate](http://www.protect-maryland-kids.com/donate) are easy ways to do this, or checks can be mailed to MCAP, P.O. Box 2868, Silver Spring, MD 20915-2868.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Silver Spring, MD 20915-2868

P.O. Box 2868

Maryland Coalition Against Pornography