



July 15, 2024

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis  
United States House of Representatives  
2306 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bilirakis:

On behalf of the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA), we write to you today in support of the *Protecting Our Children in an AI World Act*. MCSA is an association of elected Sheriffs representing the Nation's largest counties with populations of 500,000 people or more.

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, coupled with the absence of federal regulation, has enabled sexual predators to exploit generative AI technology in ways that circumvent existing legal frameworks. This allows them to commit egregious crimes against our nation's children without facing prosecution and accountability.

Current federal law requires an actual, real picture of a recognizable minor for prosecution. To evade this, predators have taken to using photos of children, who in many cases they know personally, to create artificial "hybrid" child pornography that doesn't technically fall under any definition of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM). The *Protecting Our Children in an AI World Act* would close these loopholes, enabling law enforcement officers, who are already acutely aware of this unprecedented crisis, to swiftly prosecute offenders exploiting this gap in the law.

The *Protecting Our Children in an AI World Act* will assist our work to prevent and respond to these crimes every day. We thank you for your support of America's law enforcement in fighting child sex abuse, and we stand ready to support all efforts to advance this legislation as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Bill Brown  
MCSA President  
Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, CA

Megan E. Noland  
Executive Director  
Major County Sheriffs of America