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Committee on House Administration
Ranking Member

Committee on Appropriations
*Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies*
*Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development, and Related Agencies*

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

February 14, 2024

The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chair
House Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Jordan,

I write to follow up on our conversation on the House floor earlier this month regarding the alarming trend of deepfake pornography and urge you to hold a hearing, followed by a swift markup, on H.R.3106, *the Preventing Deepfakes of Intimate Images Act*. This bipartisan bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary in May of 2023, but has yet to receive formal consideration.

As discussed, this legislation addresses the online proliferation of nonconsensual, digitally altered, intimate images, or deepfakes. As artificial intelligence continues to advance, nonconsensual, explicit deepfake content will continue to aggressively spread without Congressional action.

Deepfake pornography makes up 96 percent of all deepfakes, and they almost exclusively target women. While the images themselves are fabricated, the irreparable harm felt is very real. Just last month, the internet was flooded with sexually explicit deepfake images of Taylor Swift and just last year, high school students in Westfield, New Jersey created sexually explicit deepfakes of their female peers. The facts are clear—easily accessible artificial intelligence technology has made it possible to create and distribute realistic, sexually explicit imagery of anyone without their consent.

While the accessibility of artificial intelligence has fueled the epidemic of nonconsensual, sexually explicit deepfake content, there are currently no federal laws to regulate the sharing of these digitally altered images. The *Preventing Deepfakes of Intimate Images Act* would prohibit the nonconsensual disclosure of deepfakes by making such a conduct a violation of criminal law, as well as creating a private right of action for victims to seek relief. Both remedies in this comprehensive legislation are essential to deter bad actors and allow victims to seek justice.

Congress must not stand on the sidelines while deeply destructive deepfakes continue to proliferate across the internet. I urge the Committee to formally consider the *Preventing Deepfakes of Intimate Images Act*. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joseph D. Morelle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerry Nadler, Ranking Member, House Committee on the Judiciary