

1 **INTIMATE IMAGE DISTRIBUTION PROHIBITION REVISIONS**

2 2021 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Andrew Stoddard**

5 Senate Sponsor: Jani Iwamoto

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill provides criminal penalties for the misuse of evidence in certain types of
10 criminal actions.

11 **Highlighted Provisions:**

12 This bill:
13 ▶ defines terms; and
14 ▶ provides criminal penalties for any individual to duplicate, share, copy, or display
15 an intimate image during a criminal action.

16 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

17 None

18 **Other Special Clauses:**

19 None

20 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

21 AMENDS:

22 **76-5b-203**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 378

23 ENACTS:

24 **76-5b-203.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

26 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

27 Section 1. Section **76-5b-203** is amended to read:

28 **76-5b-203. Distribution of an intimate image -- Penalty.**

29 (1) As used in this section:

30 (a) "Distribute" means selling, exhibiting, displaying, wholesaling, retailing, providing,
31 giving, granting admission to, providing access to, or otherwise transferring or presenting an
32 image to another individual, with or without consideration.

33 (b) "Intimate image" means any visual depiction, photograph, film, video, recording,
34 picture, or computer or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by
35 electronic, mechanical, or other means, that depicts:

36 (i) exposed human male or female genitals or pubic area, with less than an opaque
37 covering;

38 (ii) a female breast with less than an opaque covering, or any portion of the female
39 breast below the top of the areola; or

40 (iii) the individual engaged in any sexually explicit conduct.

41 (c) "Sexually explicit conduct" means actual or simulated:

42 (i) sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital, or oral-anal,
43 whether between persons of the same or opposite sex;

44 (ii) masturbation;

45 (iii) bestiality;

46 (iv) sadistic or masochistic activities;

47 (v) exhibition of the genitals, pubic region, buttocks, or female breast of any
48 individual;

49 (vi) visual depiction of nudity or partial nudity;

50 (vii) fondling or touching of the genitals, pubic region, buttocks, or female breast; or

51 (viii) explicit representation of the defecation or urination functions.

52 (d) "Simulated sexually explicit conduct" means a feigned or pretended act of sexually
53 explicit conduct that duplicates, within the perception of an average person, the appearance of
54 an actual act of sexually explicit conduct.

55 (2) An actor commits the offense of distribution of intimate images if the actor

56 knowingly or intentionally distributes to any third party, or knowingly duplicates or copies, any
57 intimate image of an individual who is 18 years of age or older and knows or should know that
58 the distribution, duplication or copying would cause a reasonable person to suffer emotional
59 distress or harm, if:

60 (a) the actor [~~knows that~~] has not received consent from the depicted individual [~~has~~
61 ~~not given consent to the actor~~] to distribute the intimate image;

62 (b) the intimate image was created by or provided to the actor under circumstances in
63 which the individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy; and

64 (c) actual emotional distress or harm is caused to the person as a result of the
65 distribution under this section.

66 (3) This section does not apply to:

67 (a) except as provided in Section 76-5b-203.5:

68 (i) lawful practices of law enforcement agencies;

69 (ii) prosecutorial agency functions;

70 (iii) the reporting of a criminal offense;

71 (iv) court proceedings or any other judicial proceeding; or

72 (v) lawful and generally accepted medical practices and procedures;

73 (b) an intimate image if the individual portrayed in the image voluntarily allows public
74 exposure of the image;

75 (c) an intimate image that is portrayed in a lawful commercial setting; or

76 (d) an intimate image that is related to a matter of public concern or interest.

77 (4) (a) This section does not apply to an Internet service provider or interactive

78 computer service, as defined in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 230(f)(2), a provider of an electronic

79 communications service as defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 2510, a telecommunications service,

80 information service, or mobile service as defined in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 153, including a

81 commercial mobile service as defined in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 332(d), or a cable operator as defined

82 in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 522, if:

83 (i) the distribution of an intimate image by the Internet service provider occurs only
84 incidentally through the provider's function of:

85 (A) transmitting or routing data from one person to another person; or

86 (B) providing a connection between one person and another person;

87 (ii) the provider does not intentionally aid or abet in the distribution of the intimate
88 image; and

89 (iii) the provider does not knowingly receive from or through a person who distributes
90 the intimate image a fee greater than the fee generally charged by the provider, as a specific
91 condition for permitting the person to distribute the intimate image.

92 (b) This section does not apply to a hosting company, as defined in Section
93 [76-10-1230](#), if:

94 (i) the distribution of an intimate image by the hosting company occurs only
95 incidentally through the hosting company's function of providing data storage space or data
96 caching to a person;

97 (ii) the hosting company does not intentionally engage, aid, or abet in the distribution
98 of the intimate image; and

99 (iii) the hosting company does not knowingly receive from or through a person who
100 distributes the intimate image a fee greater than the fee generally charged by the provider, as a
101 specific condition for permitting the person to distribute, store, or cache the intimate image.

102 (c) A service provider, as defined in Section [76-10-1230](#), is not negligent under this
103 section if it complies with Section [76-10-1231](#).

104 (5) (a) Distribution of an intimate image is a class A misdemeanor except under
105 Subsection (5)(b).

106 (b) Distribution of an intimate image is a third degree felony on a second or subsequent
107 conviction for an offense under this section that arises from a separate criminal episode as
108 defined in Section [76-1-401](#).

109 Section 2. Section **76-5b-203.5** is enacted to read:

110 **76-5b-203.5. Misuse of intimate image during a criminal action.**

111 (1) As used in this section, "intimate image" has the same meaning as in Section
112 76-5b-203.

113 (2) Any actor who obtains access to an intimate image in the course of a criminal
114 action as defined in Subsection 77-1-3(1) may not intentionally display, duplicate, copy, or
115 share the intimate image, unless:

116 (a) displaying, duplicating, copying, or sharing the intimate image is done solely for the
117 purpose of the adjudication, defense, prosecution or investigation of a criminal matter
118 involving the intimate image;

119 (b) each individual who is the subject of the intimate image gives written permission to
120 display, duplicate, copy, or share the intimate image; or

121 (c) the intimate image was not created by or provided to the actor under circumstances
122 in which the depicted individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy.

123 (3) An actor who violates Subsection (2) is guilty of:

124 (a) a class A misdemeanor for a first offense; or

125 (b) a third degree felony for each subsequent offense.

126 (4) Nothing in this section precludes an agency that employs an individual who is
127 involved in a criminal action from establishing internal policies for an individual's violation of
128 this section.