

CHAPTER 72--H.F.No. 1606

An act relating to commerce; prohibiting access to nudification technology; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 325E.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[325E.91] PROHIBITION ON NUDIFICATION TECHNOLOGY.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given.

(b) "Identifiable individual" means a person that is identifiable:

(1) from the image itself, by the person depicted in the image, or by another person; or

(2) from personal information displayed in connection with the image.

(c) "Intimate part" has the meaning given in section 609.341, subdivision 5.

(d) "Nudify" or "nudified" means the process by which:

(1) an image or video is altered or generated to depict an intimate part not depicted in an original unaltered image or video of an identifiable individual; and

(2) the altered or generated image or video is so realistic that a reasonable person would believe that the intimate part belongs to the identifiable individual.

(e) "Technical skill" means substantial application of individualized technological or artistic skill and judgment by a human creator in directing, shaping, or controlling the output.

Subd. 2. **Nudification prohibited.** (a) A person who owns or controls a website, application, software, program, or other service must not:

(1) allow a user to access, download, or use the website, application, software, program, or other service to nudify an image or video; or

(2) nudify an image or video on behalf of a user.

(b) No person may advertise or promote any website, application, software, program, or other service that performs the actions described in paragraph (a).

Subd. 3. **Exemption.** The prohibitions in subdivision 2 do not apply when the website, application, software, program, or other service requires the technical skill of a user to nudify an image or video.

Subd. 4. **Civil action; damages.** An individual depicted in an image or video that was nudified in violation of this section may bring a civil action in district court against the person who violated this section for:

(1) compensatory damages, including mental anguish or suffering, in an amount up to three times the actual damages sustained;

- (2) punitive damages;
- (3) injunctive relief;
- (4) reasonable attorney fees, costs, and disbursements; and
- (5) other relief the court deems just and equitable.

Subd. 5. **Penalties.** (a) The attorney general may enforce this section under section 8.31. In addition to other remedies or penalties, a person who violates this section is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$500,000 for each unlawful access, download, or use under subdivision 2.

(b) Notwithstanding any contrary provision in law, including but not limited to section 16A.151, any civil penalty recovered under this subdivision must be deposited into the general fund. On July 1 each year, the accumulated balance of civil penalties collected in the previous year is appropriated to the commissioner of public safety for the Office of Justice Programs to provide grants to organizations to provide direct services and advocacy for victims of sexual assault, general crime, domestic violence, and child abuse. Funding must support the direct needs of organizations serving victims of crime by providing:

- (1) direct client assistance to crime victims;
- (2) competitive wages for direct service staff;
- (3) hotel stays and other housing-related supports and services;
- (4) culturally responsive programming;
- (5) prevention programming, including domestic abuse transformation and restorative justice programming; and
- (6) for other needs of organizations and crime victim survivors.

Services funded must include services for victims of crime in underserved communities most impacted by violence and reflect the ethnic, racial, economic, cultural, and geographic diversity of the state. Up to five percent of the appropriation is available for grant administration.

Subd. 6. **Jurisdiction; venue.** (a) A court has jurisdiction over a civil action filed pursuant to this section if the plaintiff or defendant resides in this state.

(b) A civil action arising under this section may be filed in the county where the plaintiff resides.

Subd. 7. **Immunity.** This section does not alter or amend the liabilities and protections granted by United States Code, title 47, section 230, and shall be construed in a manner consistent with federal law.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective August 1, 2026, and applies to causes of action accruing on or after that date.

Presented to the governor May 6, 2026

Signed by the governor May 7, 2026, 9:14 a.m.