

March 9, 2015

TO: Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee

From: Christina Gordon

RE: SB 377 Support

Personal Testimony

Chair Prozanski and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I would first like to thank the Chair and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee for allowing me every opportunity to speak to my experience. The interest and support of the members of the Committee, members of the Senate, and members of the community have been inspiring and heartwarming.

I think it is necessary for us to update our existing invasion of privacy law to fit our changing technological environment. The ways in which people are harmed are many, and I think that this would address the new terrain of invasions of privacy.

We had a great discussion about the occurrence and effect that exists with what is commonly known as "Revenge Porn", and we got a unanimous consensus from the Senate Third Reading of that bill that sharing the intimate photo of someone without his or her consent should be a punishable sanction.

It is so bittersweet that my experience has added to the dialogue but it is important to note that the fact pattern of my experience would not have been eligible to be prosecuted under that statute.

In my case, my photo was not shared with the intent to harm or harass me; although the intent was just as deviant and grotesque. In my case, a supervisor accessed my iPhone by plugging it into his work computer with the intent to steal my personal photos, one in which was an intimate and private image. He then shared that picture with others. Every person whom he showed my image has chipped away at my privacy and power.

When I went to the Salem Police Department for an investigation, they were unable to do anything for me due to the constrictions of the existing statute. I understand their hands were tied. I know they would have like to have seen a better outcome.

This is why I think that SB 377 with the proposed amendments should be passed out of this committee with a do pass recommendation. We need to keep the conversation going that we are not going to continue to tolerate these acts of theft and invasions of privacy. I hope that we can keep sending that message out there, and send the message that we are here for victims of these crimes.