

Submitter: Tamara Antunes

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital
Construction

Measure: HB4156

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To the members of the committee:

In the behalf of survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault, I urge you to support the House Bill 4156. This impacts especially young women of color and LGBTQA+ survivors. Stalking behaviors are connected to sexual violence and revenge porn, where 16% of victims between 18 and 24 years old reported that the stalker shared nude, semi-nude, and/or sexually explicit photos or videos of them. Stalking through technology is a tactic highly utilized by people who cause harm to intimidate victims directly by controlling them without accountability. For the people who actually reported, 80% of the staking victims reported being stalked by technology, but it is estimated that more women and children are at risk. Stalking represents the highest lethality numbers: 85% of attempted and 76% of completed homicide victims were stalked.

People being stalked experience unwanted phone calls, voicemails, text messages; unwanted e-mails or social media messages; have their activities monitored using social media; have inappropriate/personal info posted or received a threat to post; are spied on/monitored using tech; and lastly and more dangerous, have their location tracked with an electronic device or app.

Please support this very important bill that affects our families and lives.

Thank you!