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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1585 Session of  
2025

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INTRODUCED BY BERNSTINE, KAUFFMAN, ROWE AND ZIMMERMAN,  
JUNE 10, 2025

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 10, 2025

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in other offenses, providing for  
3 prohibition against publishing or disseminating booking  
4 photographs for commercial use.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 7518. Prohibition against publishing or disseminating booking  
10 photographs for commercial use.

11 (a) Offense defined.--A person that is engaged in publishing  
12 or otherwise disseminating a booking photograph is guilty of a  
13 misdemeanor of the second degree if the person solicits or  
14 accepts the payment of a fee or other consideration to remove,  
15 correct, modify or refrain from publishing or otherwise  
16 disseminating the booking photograph.

17 (b) Separate violations.--Each payment or other  
18 consideration solicited or accepted in violation of this section  
19 constitutes a separate violation.

1 (c) Violation of Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer  
2 Protection Law.--Conduct that would constitute an offense under  
3 this section shall be deemed to be a violation of the act of  
4 December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as the Unfair Trade  
5 Practices and Consumer Protection Law.

6 (d) Venue.--An offense committed under this section is  
7 deemed to have been committed where the solicitation or  
8 acceptance of a fee or other consideration was made or received.

9 (e) Territorial applicability.--A person may be convicted  
10 under the provisions of this section if the victim or offender  
11 is located within this Commonwealth.

12 (f) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
13 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
14 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Booking photograph." A photograph or image of an individual  
16 generated by law enforcement for identification purposes in  
17 accordance with 61 Pa.C.S. § 1103 (relating to recording system  
18 for identification of criminal offenders).

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.