The REPORT Act

The Revising Existing Procedures On Reporting via Technology (REPORT) Act (S. 474/H.R. 5082) is a bipartisan bill that revolutionizes efforts to combat online child sexual exploitation and support children victimized by the distribution of child sexual abuse material (CSAM). The REPORT Act will modernize how CSAM is stored and reported to NCMEC; enable children and trusted representatives to report actual CSAM to NCMEC; require online platforms to report child sex trafficking and online enticement to NCMEC’s CyberTipline; and provide law enforcement more time to investigate child sexual exploitation crimes.

The REPORT Act Supports Child Victims and Law Enforcement Investigations by:

• **Empowering child victims, and adult representatives acting on a child’s behalf, to report CSAM in which the child is depicted to NCMEC.** Currently, child victims and their non-offending parents/guardians and attorneys cannot report actual CSAM depicting a child to NCMEC. This limits the services and support that can be provided to child victims and hampers efforts to combat re-circulation of sexually exploitative content. The REPORT Act will resolve these gaps by enabling child victims and non-offending representatives of a child victim to report CSAM in which the child is depicted to NCMEC.

• **Enabling the use of modern technology to store and electronically transfer CSAM.** The REPORT Act will enable law enforcement to electronically submit CSAM they have seized from offenders directly to NCMEC’s Child Victim Identification Program, which will exponentially increase efforts to identify children victimized in CSAM and enable survivors to have additional opportunities to seek restitution against offenders. The REPORT Act also will enable NCMEC to use cloud storage for CSAM, which will facilitate image analysis and permit funding to be re-allocated to directly support and safeguard children.

• **Requiring online platforms to report child sex trafficking and online enticement to NCMEC’s CyberTipline.** Currently, online platforms are not required to report instances of child sex trafficking and online enticement. The REPORT Act will ensure that victims of these crimes receive urgently needed support and services by requiring online platforms to report these crimes to NCMEC’s CyberTipline.

• **Supporting law enforcement by requiring online platforms to retain content reported to the CyberTipline for 1 year.** Currently, online platforms can retain content reported to NCMEC’s CyberTipline for only 90 days, which is not sufficient time to review and investigate a case. The REPORT Act will extend the retention period to 1 year to enable law enforcement adequate time to investigate cases and will permit companies developing tools to better detect CSAM to retain content for longer periods of time.