



Van H. Wanggaard

Wisconsin State Senator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 19, 2016

CONTACT: Van Wanggaard
(608) 266-1832

“ALICIA’S LAW” TARGETS CHILD SEX PREDATORS

Governor Signs Wanggaard Bill Providing New Tools and Funding Protecting Children

WAUKESHA – A bill providing \$1 million in new funding and easing the process of capturing sexual predators of children became law today. Senate Bill 546, known as “Alicia’s Law” was championed by Senator Van Wanggaard (R-Racine), and signed by Governor Walker at a ceremony in Waukesha this afternoon.

“This bill will literally save children from tortuous situations and put heinous predators behind bars,” said Wanggaard. “I know it’s hard to believe, but these crimes occur at alarming rates right here in Wisconsin, and we need the tools to fight it.”

In a crime where every second counts, Alicia’s Law streamlines the steps to identify the Internet Protocol (IP) addresses of sex predators. Knowing the location of these IP addresses lets investigators know where a crime is being committed before the IP address is lost. The bill also provides \$1 million in new funding for the Department of Justice’s Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force to increase arrests and prosecutions. Every year, several thousand unique Wisconsin computers access videos of crime scene recordings of very young children being raped and tortured. As shocking as that number is, research shows that more than half of child pornography possessors are hands-on offenders.

“Although every bill is important, I believe this is the most critical piece of legislation we passed this session,” Wanggaard said. “There is no excuse for failing to protect children from being victimized and tortured.”

Alicia’s Law is named after Alicia Kozakiewicz, who at the age of 13, was kidnapped by an online “friend,” taken to another state, and chained in a basement. For four days, her torture and rape was broadcast online, until she was rescued, thanks to a tip and an FBI team with the technical know-how to track the predator through the Internet broadcasts. The bill was authored by Senator Van Wanggaard and Representative Joel Kleefisch (R-Oconomowoc). Attorney General Brad Schimel was heavily involved in writing the bill, as well.

###

Serving Racine and Kenosha Counties - Senate District 21