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TO: Senate Judiciary Committee

RE: SB 752

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher and members of the committee

I am writing in support of the passage of SB 752.

My son was caught-up in a situation where he was in contact with a young woman who claimed to be 18 years old. He met with this woman and had no reason to doubt her age. They met a few times just to socialize with no pressure from my son to extend this friendly relationship. Unfortunately for my son, the girl's mother found out about this relationship and made assumptions about the nature of their relationship. She contacted the State Police who immediately took over the communication between my son and this woman. This communication became very explicit, with many promises of sexual contact from the police, claiming to be the woman.

The police, claiming to be the young woman enticed my son into meeting for "fun." Upon meeting, the police arrested my son for having an intended relationship with the woman who, in fact was 16-years old. It was of no use in his defense that he believed that the woman was not a minor. It never came up in his case.

Unfortunately, the Federal authorities decided to take over this case because my son crossed state boundaries. The Federal charges were quite severe, even though there was on consummated sexual activity.

Having an affirmative defense for the belief that the victim consented if charged with Sex Abuse in the 3rd and 2nd degree is a common-sense solution to errors of mis-judgement.

I urge the Committee's Support for the passage of SB 752.

Thank you,

Robert Brown