

Submitter: D Torres
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3839
Chair & Committee Members,

This proposal is a critical step in ensuring that our schools remain safe environments where children can learn, grow, and thrive without the threat of potential harm from known offenders.

Level one and level two sex offenders represent a range of individuals who have been convicted of offenses that could pose significant risks to the safety of children. Providing school districts and visitor management services with timely, accurate access to this information will empower school officials, security personnel, and visitor management systems to make informed decisions about who is allowed on school premises. This additional layer of safety is especially important as we continue to focus on both preventing potential risks and responding swiftly if a concern arises.

Making this information accessible to school districts and relevant entities aligns with the broader goal of creating a safer environment for students, staff, and visitors. It allows schools to proactively identify potential threats and take the necessary precautions to ensure the security of students. By ensuring that this information is readily available, we create a more responsive and vigilant system, making it harder for offenders to slip through the cracks and gain access to vulnerable children.

Additionally, this policy would help school staff and parents feel more secure knowing that there are measures in place to prevent individuals who may pose a danger from being on school grounds. It fosters trust within the community, as families and educators can be assured that their schools are taking proactive steps to keep children safe.

This proposal is an essential and responsible step toward enhancing school safety and protecting our children from individuals who have demonstrated a risk to their well-being. By directing the Department of State Police to ensure the availability of level one and level two sex offender information to school districts and visitor management services, we can help create safer learning environments for every child across our state.

I urge you to support this proposal and continue to prioritize the safety and security of our children.