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**Testimony to the House Judiciary Committee
In Support of HB2404
March 17, 2025**

Chair Humphries and Committee Members,

Our associations support HB2404. It is surprising this has not been addressed before. The bill will address a narrow band of registered offenders required to be registered for a crime victimizing a person under the age of 18. This seems a very common-sense thing to do to protect our children in the school setting from those convicted of serious crimes against children requiring offender registration.

Referencing "school property" in section 1, rather than using the definition of "school" in existing law is an important distinction. And with the new definitions of "school property" and "school activity" makes it an important component of limiting the application of the new crime to the right set of youth it is intended to protect.

Applying the new crime only to those registered offenders whose crime requiring them to be registered involved a crime against a person under the age of 18 limits the new crime to the proper group of registered offenders.

The guard rails on the limitations described above make the passage of this bill very appropriate.

This is a statewide issue. I have also been advised of incidents like this will address happening in other metro areas of the state.

We encourage the committee to approve this bill favorably for passage.

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