

# News...

*...from the Illinois House of Representatives*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 20, 2008

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Bob Flider

Phone: (217) 428-2708

[www.housedem.state.il.us/members/fliderb/index.htm](http://www.housedem.state.il.us/members/fliderb/index.htm)

## **Flider's Measure to Combat Online Predators Becomes Law**

**SPRINGFIELD, IL** – Legislation introduced and sponsored by state Rep. Bob Flider (D-Mount Zion) creating a new fund to provide financial support to law enforcement operations targeting sex offenders and other criminals on the internet, became law on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The measure was brought to Flider by Macon County State's Attorney Jack Ahola and members of the Decatur Police Department.

“As technology rapidly advances we must provide our law enforcement officials with the necessary resources to combat criminals that take advantage of new technology to prey on our children,” Flider said. “This legislation will provide more resources to local and state law enforcement officers who are working hard to target internet predators, and hopefully create a safer online environment for young people.”

Flider's House Bill 3586, which became Public Act 95-0600, creates the Sex Offender Investigation Fund to provide both state and local law enforcement agencies additional funding to assist in online sex offender investigations. The new law requires any criminal convicted of a sex crime to pay an additional \$500 fine. A portion of the money collected will be allotted to the Illinois State Police for the issuance of grants to local sex offender investigation efforts. In addition, \$100 of every fine would go directly to the local state's attorney or police department that investigated the case.

“In recent years we have seen a sharp increase in internet crimes committed by criminals who prey on children,” said Flider. “This legislation will help provide financial assistance to our law enforcement agencies to enable them to give greater attention to online crimes. I have always supported giving more resources to those who work to keep our communities safe and I will continue to do so.”

Flider began working on this legislation with the Macon County State's Attorney's office in February of 2007. Flider's bill passed both the house and the senate without a single vote in opposition.

###