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### **Governor Abbott Signs Adult Alert Legislation**

June 6, 2019-(Austin, TX) Today, Governor Greg Abbott signed House Bill 1769 into law during a ceremony at the State Capitol. The bill was sponsored by Senator Larry Taylor (R-Friendswood), and authored by Representative Greg Bonnen (R- Friendswood).

Similar to an AMBER alert, HB 1769 creates a statewide alert for missing adults ages 18-64 who are presumed to be abducted or in immediate danger of injury or death. The bill was filed with the support of Ms. Alison Steele of League City, whose daughter Cayley Mandadi was kidnapped and murdered during her sophomore year at Trinity University in San Antonio.

Upon the signing of the bill, Representative Bonnen said, "It has been an honor to carry this bill in memory of Cayley Mandadi. It is my prayer that with the passage of HB 1769 Texas will see fewer preventable tragedies."

Senator Taylor also released the following statement:

My constituent Cayley was a 19 year old college student who was killed by someone she knew in 2017. There were multiple TXDOT information signs posted along the highway between where Cayley was last seen and where she was found. Had this bill been in effect then, someone may have seen the car in which she was being held and called to report a sighting, leading to her safe recovery. Cayley's mother Alison has been a tremendous advocate for this legislation and I extend my sincerest thanks to her for her dedication to this cause. I am grateful to have been able to sponsor this bill; I believe it has the potential to save lives.

Senator Taylor and Representative Bonnen were joined at the Governor's signing ceremony by Alison Steele and her husband Lawrence Baitland.

*Senator Larry Taylor is a lifelong Texan and Baylor University graduate raised in Friendswood. Before his election to the Texas Senate in 2012, he served five terms in the Texas House of Representatives. Senator Taylor currently serves as the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and as a member of the Finance, Higher Education, and Water and Rural Affairs Committees. He is also a member of the Legislative Budget Board.*

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