



THE SENATE OF TEXAS
TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Press Release:

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Sen. Menéndez Contact: Dwight Clark | 512-463-0126

Rep. Minjarez Contact: Nar Dorrycott | 512-463-0634

Senator Menéndez and Representative Minjarez Filed David's Law

AUSTIN, TX - State Senator José Menéndez, Representative Ina Minjarez, the Molak Family, and the Vasquez Family officially filed David's Law a bill aimed at combating and preventing cyberbullying. Senator Menéndez filed Senate Bill 179. On the House side, Representative Minjarez filed House Bill 306.

"As a father of three children, I know Texas must stand up to bullies," said Senator Menéndez. "This law will give parents, schools, and law enforcement more tools to go after people that prey on students."

Representative Minjarez and Senator Menéndez have been working on this legislation since December of 2015. Since then, numerous children in Texas, including David Molak, and across the country have committed suicide after being harassed and bullied online.

"David's Law is a bipartisan bill," said Representative Ina Minjarez. "As a child, I could escape my tormentors when I got home. Now with technology, children are being cyberbullied twenty-four hours a day. We owe it to the youth of Texas to take action on their behalf."

David's Law was named after David Molak a San Antonio student who tragically took his own life after extensive, inescapable, and abhorrent online harassment and cyberbullying. Maurine and Matt Molak, the parents of David, joined the Senator Menéndez and Representative Ina Minjarez as they filed the bills. Leo Vasquez, whose son was cyberbullied and has worked on the legislation, was also present.

"Children have difficulty coping with the unending onslaught of vile hatred posted online," said Senator Menendez. "My hope is Senate Bill 179 and House Bill 306 provide hope and relief for our suffering children."

Along with Senate Bill 179, Senator Menendez filed Senate Bill 180, 181, and 182 as part of a legislative package to curb cyberbullying. Representative Minjarez filed House Bill 306, 305, 304 and 116.

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