



**For Immediate Release**

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**Sexual Offenses Against Children Act Gains Unanimous Approval  
From the National Board of the American Legislative Exchange Council**

**Legislation Set Forth by Stop Child Predators  
Seeks Life Imprisonment for Repeated Sexual Offenses Against Children**

**WASHINGTON, May 24, 2006** --- The *Sexual Offenses Against Children Act* — model legislation set forth by Stop Child Predators — gained unanimous approval this week from the National Board of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). The American Legislative Exchange Council is a national organization of state legislators. It has over 2,400 members from all 50 states.

The *Sexual Offenses Against Children Act* is closely modeled after Florida's Jessica Lunsford Act. Most significantly, the bill provides for mandatory minimum prison terms—ranging from 10 years to life imprisonment depending upon the nature of the offense—for sexual offenses against children. The bill mandates life imprisonment for repeated sexual offenses against children. In addition, the bill contains provisions for biannual registration and randomized verification, electronic monitoring as a condition of supervised release, and restitution and victims' rights.

After first proposing the legislation in August of 2005, Stop Child Predators worked with ALEC members through several rounds of dialogue within the Sexual Crime Prevention Subcommittee of ALEC's Criminal Justice Task Force. The collaborative effort produced a bill that addresses current weaknesses in penalties and registration requirements for sex offenders.

(more)

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## Sexual Offenses Against Children Act Gains ALEC Endorsement

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“All children deserve to be protected from sex offenders and that's why Stop Child Predators is calling on state and federal lawmakers across the country to pass a version of Florida's Jessica's Law and hold sex offenders accountable for their actions,” says Stacie Rumenap, Executive Director of Stop Child Predators. Currently, only 13 of the 50 states have passed a version of the Law. Rumenap continues, “Within the next five years, we hope to have Jessica’s Law passed in all 50 states, whether through legislative action or ballot initiative, and one state at a time, if necessary.”

Stop Child Predators is a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. dedicated to establishing penalty enhancements for those found guilty of committing sexual offenses against children; implementing an effective and efficient nationwide sex offender registry; and protecting the rights of crime victims. The organization is an active proponent for the passage of Jessica’s Law in all 50 states and at the national level. For more information, contact SCP at (202) 234-0090 or online at [www.stopchildpredators.org](http://www.stopchildpredators.org).

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