

The Honorable _____
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1204 – Support

Dear Assemblymember _____ :

I respectfully request that you support SB 1204 (Runner). This bill requires anyone registered as a sex offender to notify the Department of Justice of any and all online addresses.

This bill contains legislation that is long overdue. The government of California has passed many laws key to protecting our children by limiting where registered sex offenders may live and work as well as specifying where they may not physically spend time. These limitations, however, leave an enormous hole in our children's security by allowing them to be directly contacted by a registered sex offender online – an environment where ever-larger numbers of children and teens are spending time. Such a loophole is frankly unacceptable and is akin to outlawing talking on a cell phone while driving while still allowing drivers to send text messages – a problem finally addressed last year in California.

New York enacted legislation similar to SB 1204 in 2007 resulting in over 3,500 registered New York sex offenders being purged from Facebook and MySpace. While California may not be able to police all online activity of registered sex offenders, requiring registered sex offenders to provide the DOJ with all online addresses would allow the government to better monitor these individuals and better ensure that they are not using their accounts to access social networking sites.

Again, please support SB 1204. I look forward to hearing how you plan to vote on this important measure.

Sincerely,