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Representative Daley Files 'Parents Need to Know' Legislation to Prevent School Violence

Tallahassee, Fla. –Representative Dan Daley (D- Coral Springs) has filed [HB 951](#) - Reporting of School Safety Issues. The 'Parents Need to Know' Act requires schools to notify parents and staff within 24 hours when a threat or incident has taken place on campus and to include what actions were taken in response to the threat. These reports will be anonymous in nature and will not include any identifying information. This bill will also create a hotline and an online reporting system for parents to report school safety issues. In the Senate, a companion bill will be filed by **Senator Shevrin Jones (D- Miami Gardens)**.

"It's our collective responsibility to make the world a safer place for our children, and this legislation would put protocols in place that would potentially save countless lives. As a graduate of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, nothing is more important to me than taking action to ensure that a tragedy like what our community experienced never happens again. While a court recently decided the Broward County School District had no duty to warn parents of the threats posed by the Parkland shooter, we believe that decision to be a reckless precedent and took action by filing 'The Parents Need to Know' Act which will require schools to transparently communicate with parents and staff regarding the safety of their children, in addition to creating a hotline and online reporting system," said **Representative Dan Daley**. "Since the tragedy at MSD, Stand with Parkland – The National Association of Families for Safe Schools founded by the victim's families has worked to transform their pain into action, helping to prevent other school shootings and save the lives of others. 'The Parents Need to Know Act' is a work of dedication by these families."

"Ever since that horrific day three years ago, the families and classmates of those lost in the Parkland tragedy have channeled their heartbreak into remarkable action to ensure others don't have to endure the same pain," **Senator Jones** said. "This legislation will empower communities across the state with information that will ultimately make our students and schools safer, before more innocent lives are lost."

"I was told my children's school was safe, until it became the crime scene for the worst mass shooting at a US high school. It turned out that serious safety concerns were not reported to all parents, students, and school staff when they occurred. Enacting the 'Parents Need to Know' Act may be too late for my daughter, Carmen, and the 16 other victims at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, but it is not too late to keep other staff and students safe in Florida's schools. Parents and the school community should KNOW if their schools are safe,

not hope and pray that they are,” **April Schentrup** of Stand with Parkland said.

“Stand with Parkland – The National Association of Families for Safe Schools is grateful to State Representatives Daley and Senator Jones for introducing this important bill that helps safeguard Florida’s children. Our Secretary, Phil Schentrup, brought this idea to our Board over a year ago and we all worked to craft a plan to close a dangerous gap in school safety. Just this week a judge in a state circuit court said that in the Parkland massacre the school district had no requirement to warn parents about threats to their children’s school. This notion should send chills down your spine if you are a parent with children in Florida’s schools,” said **Tony Montalto, President of Stand with Parkland**. “How can you keep your kids safe if you don’t know about the threats they face? When ‘Parents Need to Know’ is passed it will provide vital information to Florida’s families and allow them to take appropriate action.”

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