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April 25, 2019

Representative Kathy Crawford Chair, Committee on Families, Children, and Seniors Michigan House of Representatives

Dear Rep. Crawford,

I am writing to express my support of HB 4076, which would help protect vulnerable adults from online predators. This bill, referred to as "Justice for Allie," was developed after a student in the Troy School District was victimized by someone who took advantage of her innocence and trusting nature.

As a school district, our mission is "to ensure learning for ALL," and we take that "ALL" very seriously. We provide opportunities for all students to learn and reach their full potential, but we are also mindful that it is critical that we work to protect those who cannot always protect themselves. We believe that this bill will ensure that appropriate penalties are in place for those who would seek to abuse vulnerable adults across Michigan.

Allie is a special member of our community and we are proud of the work that she and her supporters have put in on this important bill. On a personal level, I too am a parent of a cognitively impaired teenager. Allie's story could easily have been our Caroline, in fact, families across Michigan are counting on you and your colleagues to pass this legislation. We urge all members of the Michigan House and Senate to vote in support this critical measure.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Richard M. Machesky, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

