



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

David Carlucci

Senator Carlucci Calls for Stricter Residency Requirements for Sex Offenders

DAVID CARLUCCI May 26, 2015

| ISSUE: **CHILDREN**



New City, N.Y. – (5/26/15) – Senator David Carlucci, (D – Rockland/Westchester), Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski (D – New City), Clarkstown Supervisor Alex Gromack (D – Clarkstown), and Clarkstown residents hosted a press conference calling for stricter residency requirements for sex offenders.

Due to a loophole in New York State law, a Level 3 sex offender is currently legally residing approximately 175 feet from Nella Di Nuovo Daycare. The daycare facility is located on Lenox Avenue, in a residential area of Congers.

Senator Carlucci, Assemblyman Zebrowski, Supervisor Gromack, Nella Di Nuovo and other Clarkstown residents rallied in support of legislation that would prohibit sex offenders from residing 1,000 feet from a daycare facility.

The New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision interprets current law from prohibiting sex offenders from knowingly residing within 1,000 feet of school buildings and from knowingly traveling within 1,000 feet of school buildings, leaving daycare and pre-kindergarten facilities vulnerable to sexual predators.

Senator Carlucci's legislation S3223A, will prohibit sex offenders from moving to a residence that is within 1000 feet of any school building regularly used for instructional purposes, a building in which child day care is provided. Similar legislation, A1658 is being pushed in the New York State Assembly by Assemblyman Zebrowski.

"As a new father, it's unsettling to know that current law leaves our youngest children unprotected from some of the most violent and perverse criminals," said **Senator David Carlucci**. "Unfortunately within eight years of their release, level three sex offenders were rearrested almost fifty percent of the time. Our children are our most precious asset and we need to do everything we can to keep them safe. We must close this loophole immediately."

"The recent news of a level three sex offender moving just houses away from a daycare center has understandably left the community extremely concerned," said **Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski**. "It is our responsibility to ensure that children are safe and that we do everything in our power to keep these dangerous predators away from them. When sex offenders are placed in our community there needs to be vigilant enforcement, transparency and communication to ensure that residents can better educate their children to the dangers of these individuals. We are actively pushing legislation that establishes reasonable residency restrictions surrounding childcare facilities. These common sense measures are necessary to keep our community, especially our children, safe."

"As Town Supervisor I am outraged that known sex offenders can live in such close proximity to schools, daycare facilities, and playgrounds where our precious children learn and play," said **Clarkstown Supervisor Alex Gromack**. "As a former State Assemblyman, I realize the only way to achieve stricter residency standards is through state legislation and that is why I am here today supporting Senator Carlucci and Assemblyman Zebrowski's bills. It is obvious that local laws have been struck down by the highest court in the State, the Court of Appeals, so that is no longer an option. However, I am sponsoring a Town Board resolution requesting the State to enact legislation which would allow municipalities to enact their own legislation under home rule, should state legislation fail to be enacted."

