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Bill Allows Suits Against Parent Abductors

By Colin Fogarty

SALEM, OR (2005-08-03) - The Oregon House sent Governor Ted Kulongoski a bill Wednesday aimed at allowing lawsuits against parents who abduct their own children.

Senate Bill 1041 is thought to be the first law of its kind recognizing the psychological damage caused by family abductions.

The measure was inspired by Sean Cruz, an aide to state Senator Avel Gordly. His four children were taken a decade ago and one died last April.

Sean Cruz: I wanted something good to happen. It's too late for my family. And what we're hoping to accomplish is to deter people from doing this in the first place.

The bill was also backed by Clackamas Republican Linda Flores, who told her colleagues that she hasn't seen two of her grandchildren since they were taken to Mexico by a family member last year.

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