

# Hailey's Law: Closing the Digital Gap in Child Protection

## In Memory of Hailey Paige Buzbee (2008–2026)

*"The changes we make together will be rooted in the love Hailey brought into the world."*

The Problem: Our Current Alert Notification & Response Systems, Child Safety Education, and Protections Were Built for a Different Era

Today's predators reach our children through DMs, games, encrypted chats, and platforms that did not exist when Indiana's primary alert systems were established. Our children remain highly vulnerable, and parents are left competing against relentless and highly sophisticated predators.

### The Solution: 3 Pillars of Reform

To close these gaps, Hailey's Law focuses on **three key areas** to update Indiana's child protection standards:

- 1. The Pink Alert System:** Transforms the Indiana missing persons alert notification and response from a fragmented model into a coordinated, technology-supported system, aligned to modern threats and current investigative realities. **This comprehensive approach improves the speed and effectiveness of locating missing children and includes far more than simply adding another alert.**
  - Pink Alert System
  - Risk-Based Response: Recognizes that groomers often manipulate and influence children to leave voluntarily, making many so-called "runaway" cases inherently high-risk.
  - Statewide Law Enforcement Leadership: Designates an Indiana law enforcement entity to publish annual guidance, best practices, consultation resources, and inherently dangerous indicators based on evolving predator tactics and investigative trends.
  - Modernize the Missing Persons Clearinghouse
  - Expand Use of Widely Available and Cost-Effective Technology: Encourages greater use of practical tools to improve communication and response.
  - Voluntary Camera Registry Program ("Pink Cam"): Allows community members to register cameras so law enforcement can quickly send targeted communications about what information or footage may be helpful. Law enforcement **would not** have direct access to live feeds.
- 2. Modern Predator and Grooming Education for Students:** Updating the Indiana Education Code to teach students how to recognize digital grooming and manipulation. Grooming is the earliest point of intervention for abuse, and without addressing it, we are reacting too late.
- 3. Digital Accountability and Other Protective Measures:** Holding platforms and predators responsible by raising grooming penalties to a **first-offense felony**, requiring social media companies to be more responsive during emergencies, and empowering parents with the information needed to make informed decisions about technology and their child's safety.

**The safety of our children cannot wait. Join us in closing the gaps in Indiana's child protections!**