



News from . . .

Senator Dianne Feinstein

of California

Statement of Senator Dianne Feinstein on Expansion of Global Effort to Combat Child Sex Predators January 29, 2004

Washington, DC – The Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcements today announced that it would expand global efforts to combat child sex predators, including participating in the Amber Alert program.

Last year, U.S. Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and Dianne Feinstein sponsored legislation that created a nationwide Amber Alert network. Following is a statement by Senator Feinstein:

“The Department of Homeland Security and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children today announced that they will begin to participate in the Amber Alert program. This will be in conjunction with ‘Operation Predator,’ a campaign to combat child sexual predators worldwide. This adds an important new dimension to the Amber Alert system and will increase the likelihood that abducted children are returned to their parents.

Essentially, when a child has been abducted, and it is feared that the abductor has taken the child on a plane, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children will alert the Federal Air Marshal Service to let them know about the abduction or kidnapping.

Since the Amber Alert program has been put into effect, it has meant the recovery of 122 children. This program works, it saves children's lives, and I strongly support efforts to expand it.”

###