



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 13, 2023

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Governor Signs Rubio’s SB 331- Piqui’s Law, Groundbreaking Legislation Reforming Family Courts

SACRAMENTO, CA In a historic move, Governor Newsom has signed Senate Bill 331–Piqui’s Law, by Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park). This groundbreaking legislation is named in memory of 5-year-old Piqui, tragically murdered by his father amidst family court proceedings.

Piqui’s Law aims to enhance child safety by prohibiting courts from mandating children into non-licensed, unregulated services, often referred to as reunification camps. Furthermore, it mandates the development of specialized training for judicial officers in domestic violence and child custody matters, and introduces reporting requirements on their education and training.

Senator Rubio expressed her gratitude, stating, “I am deeply thankful to Governor Newsom for signing a bill that prioritizes the safety of domestic violence victims and children entangled in Family Court disputes. The harrowing reality is that children continue to lose their lives to abusive parents during these proceedings. Many of these deaths are preventable. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the countless victims, parents, and advocates for their unwavering support in our mission to shield our most vulnerable – our children.”

“This is truly a bittersweet moment. I am overwhelmed with emotion now that Piqui’s Law- IS law. It breaks my heart to think that my beautiful son had to die for him to be the catalyst for change. Piqui’s gift to the world was his life and his legacy will live on through Senate Bill 331,” said Ana Estevez. Piqui’s mother, who was in the Senate Chambers to witness the vote also stated “My deepest gratitude to Governor Newsom and Senator Susan Rubio for their commitment to keeping children safe, for leading the charge in family court reform, and for being the voice of the innocent. California and beyond, thanks you for your courage, leadership, and compassion. I know, without a doubt, that my Piqui is thanking you from heaven.”

Building on Senator Rubio's sentiments, Sandra Ross from the California Protective Parents Association remarked, “By signing Piqui’s Law (SB 331-Rubio), Governor Newsom not only demonstrated his strong commitment to the well-being of California’s children, but his leadership will have a positive impact on child safety in child custody cases across our nation and beyond.”

Patricia Wenskunas, Founder CEO of Crime Survivors, Inc., added, “Receiving the news of Governor Newsom signing Piqui's Law was bittersweet. While congratulating seems misplaced, I join many in thanking Ana for her immense bravery and sacrifice in continuing her baby boy’s legacy. This is monumental, giving new hope for victims, survivors, and families. Every child matters, and it's our collective duty to safeguard them. A special thanks to Senator Susan Rubio and her team for their relentless efforts, you are warriors. Governor Newsom, your signature on Piqui's Law reaffirms our belief in unity and strength. Piqui will be the eternal voice for the voiceless.”

Tina Swithin, representing Family Court Awareness Month, also weighed in on the significance of this legislation. “As the founder of Family Court Awareness Month, we commend Governor Gavin Newsom’s passage of SB331, known as Piqui’s Law. This landmark legislation represents a significant step forward in protecting the most vulnerable members of our society; California’s children.”

Senator Susan Rubio represents Senate District 22. For more information, visit

<https://sd22.senate.ca.gov/>

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