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STATEMENT

By Sen. Loudon on Cable Industry's Historic Agreement to Reduce Proliferation of Child Pornography Online

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. John Loudon, R-Chesterfield, praised today's announcement by the nation's cable operators to take additional voluntary measures to limit the distribution of child pornography on the Internet under an agreement among the National Cable & Telecommunications Association (NCTA), the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), and the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG).

Under the unprecedented agreement, all cable operators represented on the NCTA's Board of Directors have agreed to reduce the proliferation of child pornography by using the NCMEC's list of active websites identified as containing child pornography to ensure no such site is hosted on servers owned or controlled by those companies — which represent broadband Internet service to more than 112 million homes. The agreement with NCMEC will help cable broadband service providers enforce their terms of service that bar such illegal materials and make it easier to refer cases to law enforcement for investigation and prosecution.

"This momentous agreement significantly strengthens the nation's attack on child pornography. This bold step forward will result in sparing more victims from sexual exploitation, make it more difficult for Internet sexual predators and child pornographers to store and exchange sexual exploitation images, and undoubtedly save lives. I want to congratulate the cable industry for taking a big step to online safety for our kids. I hope this recent decision by the cable industry and other Internet Service Providers to reduce access to child pornography continues to spawn a national and worldwide trend to ensure online safety for children and their families."

-Sen. John Loudon

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