



## REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS NELSON ASSEMBLY MAJORITY LEADER

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### ASSEMBLY PASSES TRAVELING SALES CREW BILL

MADISON – On a bipartisan vote, the Wisconsin State Assembly passed ‘Malinda’s Law’ Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, which will regulate traveling sales crews in the state. The bill comes ten years after a tragic van accident killed seven young members of a traveling sales crew, including Malinda Turvey, for whom the bill is named.

Malinda’s Law will require an individual recruiting for a sales crew to undergo a rigorous certification process with the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development including a criminal background check for the individual and all members of the traveling sales company. Employers are also required to obtain permits for salespeople and disclose all terms of employment to their employees, effectively ensuring that traveling salespeople have the same basic employee protections as other Wisconsin workers.

“This is an important piece of legislation affecting both employee protection and consumer protection. It will go a long way towards preventing tragic accidents like the one that took the life of Malinda Turvey and six other young people,” said Assembly Majority Leader Thomas Nelson (D-Kaukauna).

The bill also requires that sales crews register with the local municipal clerk and local law enforcement before going door-to-door in a community.

“Malinda’s Law is also an important public safety measure, because it will make local law enforcement aware if members of sales crews have committed crimes in other states,” continued Rep. Nelson. “Wisconsinites should feel safe in their communities, and it will help to know that law enforcement is keeping an eye on door-to-door salespeople.”

Phil Ellenbecker, the father of Malinda Turvey, has advocated for this legislation since the death of his daughter on March 25, 1999. He was present while the measure was being debated in the Assembly and as it passed with bipartisan support.

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