

Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Thursday, April 6, 2017
Testimony in support of SB 86

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS HAROLD LEACH.

TODAY I SPEAK FOR MY WIFE, ALBERTA AND MYSELF.

WE WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO YOU TODAY, AND WE REALLY WANT TO THANK SENATOR TOM HOLLAND FOR ALL HIS HELP TO PRESENT SB 86.

OUR SON, **RANDY LEACH**, IS OUR ONLY SON,
AND HE IS OUR ONLY CHILD.

THERE IS NOT ENOUGH TIME TODAY TO TELL YOU WHAT OUR SON MEANS TO US,, HE IS OUR WORLD – GROWING UP ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF LINWOOD, KS (POPULATION 350). WE ARE VERY PROUD OF HIM. HE HAS BEEN CALLED “A GOOD, ALL-AMERICAN BOY”.

ON FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH, 1988, RANDY LEFT TO GO OUT WITH PLANS TO DROP BY A PRE-GRADUATION, BONFIRE PARTY AT A CLASSMATE’S RURAL HOME. 70 TO 150 PEOPLE ATTENDED THROUGHOUT THE EVENING

HE NEVER RETURNED HOME

AND OUR FAMILY CAR HAS NEVER BEEN FOUND.

PLEASE CLOSE YOUR EYES A MOMENT AS I AGAIN REPEAT –

OUR 17-YEAR OLD SON NEVER RETURNED HOME

AND OUR FAMILY CAR HAS NEVER BEEN FOUND.

THIS IS DEVASTATING TO ANY PARENT –
DEVASTATING DOWN TO YOUR VERY SOUL.

THIS WAS THE WORST DAY OF OUR LIVES.

BUT IT ONLY GETS WORSE,, BECAUSE HIS CASE,
TO THIS VERY DAY, HAS **NEVER** BEEN SOLVED.

SO EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY DAY –
DAY AFTER DAY – AND YEAR AFTER YEAR --

WE RE-LIVE 'THE WORST DAY OF OUR LIVES'
OVER AND OVER, FOR 29 YEARS NOW WITH NO END.

THE CASE REMAINS UNINVESTIGATED, UNPROSECUTED,
UNSOLVED AND SADLY,, UNIMPORTANT,

WHILE OUR SON'S WHEREABOUTS REMAIN UNKNOWN.

OUR SON'S CASE IS ONLY THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG

OF ALL THE FACTS SURROUNDING HIS UNRESOLVED CASE.

HERE TODAY, WE WON'T AND CAN'T ADDRESS

THE 90% '*BELOW THE SURFACE*' PART OF RANDY'S CASE.

WE ARE HERE TODAY TO TELL YOU ABOUT
THE 10% PART OF RANDY'S CASE.

___ WE ARE YOUR CONSTITUENTS,
___ WE ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS,
___ WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS,
___ WE ARE YOUR FAMILY,
___ WE ARE KANSAS,

**AND THIS LEGISLATION SB 86 IS SPECIFICALLY WRITTEN
TO HELP US GET ACCESS TO THE FILES IN
OUR SON'S MISSING CASE SO WE CAN HELP IN ANY WAY
POSSIBLE TO RESOLVE OUR SON'S CASE AND FIND HIM.**

THE YEARS OF INVESTIGATION BY LOCAL & STATE HAVE NOT
BEEN ABLE TO RESOLVE THIS CASE AND HAVE KEPT THE
RECORDS CLOSED TO US. BUT, ALL THESE FACTS ARE IN
THAT 90%, AND WE ARE HERE ONLY TO ADDRESS THE 10%.

AGAIN, WE ARE HERE TODAY TO MAKE OUR HEARTFELT PLEA
THAT YOU ALL, AS OUR LAWMAKERS, WILL SUPPORT THIS
IMPORTANT PIECE OF LEGISLATION – SB 86, TO HELP US
GET ACCESS TO FILES THAT WILL HELP US FIND OUR SON,
RANDY LEACH, AND FINALLY HAVE RESOLVE AND CLOSURE
TO OUR SON'S DISAPPEARANCE.

**IN CLOSING, WE ARE IN THE 'SUNSET OF OUR YEARS'
SO PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT WE CAN'T WAIT**

1 YEAR – 5 YEARS -- OR MORE

**FOR LOCAL & STATE TO DENY OUR ACCESS TO THE
FILES WHICH WOULD ALLOW US TO HELP RESOLVE
AND PUT CLOSURE ON OUR SON'S WHEREABOUTS.**

THANK YOU AND WE PRAY FOR YOUR SUPPORT.