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**STATE SENATOR RYAN GATTI'S "KATIE BUG'S LAW" WINS UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY BOTH HOUSES OF THE LEGISLATURE**

The Louisiana State Legislature unanimously approved Senate Bill 138, introduced by District 36 State Senator Ryan Gatti (R-Bossier City). Rep. Raymond Crews filed a similar measure, HB132, which modifies post traffic accident drug testing requirements, and presented Senator Gatti's bill, for which the Senator would like to extend a special thanks. Senator Gatti would also like to thank Judge Harmon Drew for his guidance and input throughout the bill drafting process.

Senate Bill 138 mandates drug testing after traffic accidents that result in "serious bodily injury" or death. It is known as "Katie Bug's Law," named after 4-year-old Katie Grantham of Bossier Parish. Katie passed away from complications following a car accident where she sustained critical injuries in 2017. The vehicle she was riding in was hit by another vehicle after that driver ran a red light. The other vehicle's driver was suspected of intoxication, but was not drug tested and without more evidence could not be charged with negligent or vehicular homicide. He served 10 days in prison for a traffic violation.

"This bill is extremely important," stated Senator Gatti. "Previous to this law, drivers were only blood tested for alcohol and drugs if there was a fatality on the scene. Just because Katie died in the hospital and not in the vehicle, should not make a difference. People need to be held accountable for their actions."

"She wasn't dead yet' should never again be a reason to not administer a blood test," said Morgan Grantham, mother of Katie Grantham.

Senate Bill 138 has been sent to the Governor for his signature. To view SB 138 and Senator Gatti's other bills, please visit [www.legis.la.gov](http://www.legis.la.gov).

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