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## Culver-GOP discussion set on sex offender rule change

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The 2,000-foot rule dealing with where sex offenders can live will be the topic of a conversation Monday between Gov. Chet Culver and Republican lawmakers.

The law bans registered sex offenders from living within 2,000 feet of schools and child-care centers. There's a loud cry from law enforcement officials to replace the rule with new restrictions banning sex offenders from working or dwelling in places that children frequent.

Republican leaders Thursday stopped short of promising not to attack Democratic lawmakers during the next election cycle for voting in favor of revising the law, but seemed open to the idea of a truce.

"If at the end of the day we've made it tougher on sex offenders in the state of Iowa, then there will be nothing to beat up on them about," said House Minority Leader Kraig Paulsen, R-Hiawatha. "There are changes that probably could be made, and that's what we're going to talk about."

Sheriffs and county attorneys say the law is ineffective because it governs only where offenders sleep and takes too much time and money to enforce.

Supporters say any regular contact between authorities and convicted sex offenders is a good thing.

Department of Public Safety Officials say now is an ideal time to revise the law because Iowa is under a deadline to update its sex offender laws anyway so that they match a stricter federal law, the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act.

Senate Minority Leader Paul McKinley, R-Chariton, said: "Iowans will make their own judgment of what's appropriate and what's not appropriate."

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