



## NEW LAW BETTER PROTECTS CHILDREN WHILE IN SCHOOL

State Representative Tim Sanders (R-Blaine) co-authored the Kyle Herman bill (HF 3157), which was passed unanimously and signed into law last April. This bill requires the commissioner of education to inform parents of any abuse to their child in school within 10 days of receiving a report.

“The Kyle Herman bill fills a gaping hole in current law,” Sanders said. “It only makes sense that parents are informed when there are reports of child abuse in school—especially when their child is the victim. As a parent, my worst nightmare would be to find out abuse was perpetrated against my child years ago, and I could do nothing about it.”

Previous laws did not require parental notification of child abuse at school.

The new law is a result of the abuse Kyle Herman suffered in kindergarten in the Spring Lake Park School District in 2006. Although reports of the abuse were investigated by the school, Kyle’s parents were not told until nearly two years later.

“When we send our kids off to school, we entrust their teachers with their education, safety and well-being,” Sanders said. “We, as parents, expect to be informed of anything that threatens that trust. Nothing can undo the suffering of the Herman family. Hopefully, this will prevent other Minnesota families from facing a similar situation in the future.”