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State Legislators to Ban School Strip Searches

Suring School incident prompts state action

Madison, WI – In recent years, we have seen the devastating effects government overreach can have on our communities and in our lives. As elected officials, it is our responsibility to limit the powers of our government, more than ever when it harms and defiles the safety of our children. In January 2022, six females at a Wisconsin high school were forced by female staff at the school to strip down to their undergarments in search of vaping devices.

“The last thing parents need to worry about is their children being strip-searched at school,” said Rep. David Steffen (R-Green Bay). “We can ensure the safety of our students and schools without violating rights or common sense.”

“Enforcement of school policies should always be done in a way that respects students’ dignity. Parents should never have to worry about their children’s dignity being violated when they send them to school.” Rep. Elijah Behnke (R-Oconto).

“The statute relating to student strip searches isn’t adequate to keep parents informed and doesn’t teach our kids the right lessons on respecting others and their person. While administrators have to maintain discipline, the law needs to change to better reflect our values to keep something like this from happening again. Forcing students to disrobe without parental approval and threat of punishment for non-compliance is simply something our community shouldn’t tolerate.” Sen. Eric Wimberger (R-Green Bay).

“Our schools need to be a safe space for students whether they’re in the classroom or the principal’s office. I look forward to working with my colleagues on defining what are appropriate and proportional disciplinary measures in our schools.” Rep. Jeffrey Mursau (R-Crivitz).

For more information please contact Representative Steffen. He can be reached at (608)266-5840 or by email at Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov.

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