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# SCOTT ALLEN

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REPRESENTATIVE • 97<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release  
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February 23, 2021  
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## **Senate committee hears testimony on bill inspired by Kai Lerner**

In 2019, Kai Lerner, a multi-sport athlete from Waukesha North High School was playing basketball with his friends in Waukesha's Grandview Park. Feeling tired he took a break when suddenly Kai went into cardiac arrest and collapsed. He passed away several days later after being removed from life support when doctors determined the lack of oxygen to his brain had caused too much damage.

Joined by members of Kai's family and friends along with Senator Alberta Darling, Representative Scott Allen (R-Waukesha) testified today on a bill he has authored aimed at giving parents and young athletes information about sudden cardiac arrest. Lerner, it turned out, had an undiagnosed heart condition called Wolff-Parkinson-White Syndrome. An extra electrical pathway between the heart's upper and lower chambers can cause a rapid heartbeat and lead to cardiac arrest.

"The most troubling part of Kai's passing is that he was so young and that his condition was undetected," Rep. Allen testified. "Kai and his parents did not have the knowledge to ask the right question to the right doctors. We are here today to help fix that."

[Senate Bill 95](#), also known as Assembly Bill 82, requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), to consult with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), to develop an information sheet about sudden cardiac arrest.

The information provided would include the risks associated with participation in a youth athletic activity after experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest symptom, the potential risks and benefits of electrocardiogram (ECG/EKG) testing, and that a person can request an ECG from their health care provider, at their own expense. The bill is modeled after Wisconsin's Youth Athlete Concussion Law.

"I'm grateful for Kai's family, who are choosing to turn a painful tragedy into something positive for other parents and families," said Rep. Allen.

*You can read Rep. Allen's testimony by [following this link](#).*

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The 97<sup>th</sup> Assembly District includes portions of the City and Village of Waukesha and the Towns of Genesee, and Mukwonago.