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## News from Representative Gruenhagen 10-15-2015

rep.glenn.gruenhagen@house.leg.state.mn.us

Thu, Oct 15, 2015 at 10:25 AM

<rep.glenn.gruenhagen@house.leg.state.mn.us>

Reply-To: rep.glenn.gruenhagen@house.leg.state.mn.us

To: Announcements From Representative Glenn Gruenhagen <rep\_glenn\_gruenhagen\_list@ww3.house.leg.state.mn.us>

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## Minnesota House of Representatives



### Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen (18B) - Legislative Update

Dear Friends,

I have received some questions this summer about an issue related to a piece of legislation we attempted to pass last session called the Student Safety and Privacy Protection. I was also disappointed that in the K-12 omnibus bill it did not include the Student Safety and Privacy Protection bill which would've protected student privacy and required that bathroom showers and locker rooms in a school be separated based on an athlete's biological sex. According to Dr. Paul McHugh former chief of psychiatry at John Hopkins Hospital "transgenderism" is a mental disorder and trying to surgically change one's gender is medically impossible. There is also research showing a significant number percent of individuals who change their mind and eventually grow out of these feelings, which is why there are delays of 12 months or more before certain permanent physical surgical changes are made.

Instances have come up in Minnesota where individuals have attempted to use bathroom facilities in workplaces that aren't their biological sex, making some employees uncomfortable. I've spoken with female employees who are too afraid to speak out and wonder about their rights in the workplace if they do not want men using women's bathrooms. This has happened to a constituent of mine who works in the metro area. A man in her department has declared himself to be a women and wants to use the women's bathroom.

The Minnesota Supreme Court has spoke on this issue (Goins v. West Group, 2001), saying an employer's designation of employee restroom use based on biological gender is not sexual orientation discrimination in violation of the Minnesota Human Rights Act. An employee can ask an employer to enforce those rules, but the employee likely can't legally force a complete separation based simply on biological sex. I plan to work on legislation next session that will protect the privacy of all individuals and our children's safety in public schools, so people don't find themselves in situations like this, worried about their privacy and fearful to speak to their

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**Legislative Assistant:**

Jonathan Fortner 651-296-5992

**Committee Assignments:**

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[Civil Law and Data Practices](#)  
[Health and Human Services](#)  
[Finance](#)  
[Higher Education Policy and Finance](#)

**Biographical Information:**

**Home:** Glencoe \* 16367 - 441st Ave., 55336; [320-864-3911](tel:320-864-3911)

**Occupation:** Small-business owner

**Business:** Glencoe; 624 E. 13th St., 55336; [320-864-5903](tel:320-864-5903)

**Education:** ChFC; CLU, insurance, American College

**Born:** 2/1/52

**Elected:** 2010

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10/18/2015

Gmail - News from Representative Gruenhagen 10-15-2015

**Term:** 3rd employer.

**Family:** Married, spouse Emily, 3 children  
Take care,

\* Prefers interim mail at this address.  
Glenn

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