

## SF 3002 Press Release Notes

Wednesday March 23, 2016

I believe that most adults do not wish to share public accommodations like bathrooms or showers with people of the opposite sex nor do they wish their children to be required to do so. It is this basic tenant, which amounts to nothing more than common decency, which forms the basis of SF 3002 the "Individual's right to Privacy and Safety in Public Accommodations Act". Unfortunately, lost in the conversation is the right of the majority to a reasonable expectation of privacy because as soon as the subject is broached, the transgender community screams discrimination against their right to use accommodations in accordance with the gender they identify with. In this assertion of discrimination, they, and all who support that claim, are legally incorrect.

In *Goins v. West Group*, 635 N.W.2d 717 (Minn) the Minnesota Supreme Court held "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". Despite this ruling by the highest court in Minnesota, the voice of most people is drowned out by the loud and often caustic voice of the transgender community.

The last point I wish to make is this: Often when legislators carry controversial legislation that involves high emotion, we hear from a variety of folks both in support of and against the proposed legislation. In this case I will say that the overwhelming majority of those I have heard from who are opposed have been threatening, coarse and crude in their description of how they feel about the bill and me personally. While I welcome civil discourse on any issue, the type of feedback I have received from the transgender community in this case serves only to harden my resolve to do my best to protect the voice of the majority of Minnesotan's. In this case, given the tactics of the transgender community, they are not the bullied, they are the bullies.