

Hello Matt Supporters

Finally, here's the information you have all been waiting for....

My meeting with Mr. Oakes of Senator Torlakson's office went very well. I learned a great deal about how a bill becomes law and so will you. As you are all aware "Matt's Law" was introduced on Thursday, February 23rd as Senate Bill No. 1454. **WOO HOO! Once this happens the bill is assigned a committee and lies dormant for 30 days so that it can be reviewed. While the bill may be dormant we cannot be.**

Before I go any further let me tell you that this bill will have to go through and be passed by SIX (6) committees, the first three in the Senate then the next three in the House, before it can find it's way to the Governor's desk at which time it will still have to be signed by him before it can become a law. So people, that being said we have our work cut out for us but the outcome will be well worth it.

Our first committee is the Public Safety Committee. This committee is made up of six Senators of which we need a majority vote (with each committee) in order for it to go any further. To get our bill past this committee we NEED supporters, BIG supporters. We need organizations, lobbyist, unions, schools, PTSA, law enforcement, hospitals, etc. to send letters endorsing our bill to Senator Torlakson so that he can show the committee that this is what "The People" want. I know I have said it before but this bill will not pass itself no matter how great we think or know it is.

If you have any connections with any groups get their support. I have attached a letter that you can either mail to them or take it to them along with the fact sheet so they will know why we are trying to get Matt's Law passed. Ask your employer to show their support, ask your doctor, your lawyer, talk to your neighbors you never know who has connections.

Our Matt Committee has been sending our letters and making phone calls as well as the Senator's office but that is not enough we need your help. Help us find supporters, you can also write a letter to Senator Torlakson.

If you have trouble writing letters, there are four sample letters (above) you can read through and see if you find one you would like to use, or you can mix and match and create a letter of your own. Whatever it takes just send a letter to Senator Torlakson via mail, fax or email. They prefer mail, and if you can do that it would be great, but getting it to his office one way or another is very important.

When it comes time for the Public Safety Committee Hearing in April we will need to do like we did in Oroville on October 28, 2005 when everyone came to court wearing their **red and sporting their Matt Badges. The Committee will only have**

time to hear from two possibly three people one being Matt's Mother (wish me luck), but the big showing will be all the supporters, you, there is strength in numbers. So please start working with your schedules now so that you may attend the April hearing in Sacramento. They only meet on Tuesday mornings and by looking at their calendar it appears it will either be the 18th or the 25th. Don't hold me to those dates but that is most likely, I will know for sure as we get closer to the day. I can't express enough just how important a good showing is it is **HUGE** and we cannot do this without your support!

I am hoping to actually meet with the different Senators of this committee or their staff sometime this month to let them know just how important this law is to all of us our children and the State of California.

I am not going to go into all the rest of the details of passing this law because the most important thing right now is to work on getting it passed in the Senate Public Safety Committee. Once we get there we will work on our next committee and so on until we are victorious in our fight to bring awareness to the dangers and destruction hazing brings to everyone involved.

You are all awesome and I really appreciate your support.

Hug your children and tell them you love them everyday.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Love you all,
Debbie, MM