

Senator Erin Maye Quade
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Senate

State of Minnesota

April 19, 2023

Senator Bobby Joe Champion
Senate Ethical Conduct Subcommittee
3401 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue West
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Mister Chair,

Attached to this letter is a complaint regarding the conduct of Senator Glenn Gruenhagen. This complaint was prepared pursuant to Senate Temporary Rule 55. With delivery of this letter and attached complaint, it is hereby filed pursuant to Rule 55. I ask that the Ethical Conduct Subcommittee investigate this matter and take action in accordance with this Rule and look forward to the subcommittee taking action on this complaint.

Sincerely,

Erin K. Maye Quade

COMPLAINT TO THE ETHICAL CONDUCT SUBCOMMITTEE REGARDING THE CONDUCT
OF SENATOR GLENN GRUENHAGEN

Senator Erin Maye Quade each being first duly sworn, state and allege under oath the following:
based upon information and belief:

**Complaint: Senator Gruenhagen distributed graphic and explicit images of children's
genitalia to Senators.**

1. At 8:33 AM on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, Senator Glenn Gruenhagen sent an email to 34 State Senators with a link to videos of children's genitalia, which Senator Gruenhagen himself described as "[e]xtremely graphic and disturbing".
2. Senate Temporary Rule 56 states that "members shall adhere to the highest standard of ethical conduct...".
3. Senate Temporary Rule 56.3 states that "improper conduct includes conduct that... violates accepted norms of Senate behavior, that betrays the public trust, or that tends to bring the Senate into dishonor or disrepute".
4. When a Senator distributes "extremely graphic and disturbing" images of children's genitalia to other Senators they are egregiously violating the accepted norms of Senate behavior.
5. The people of Minnesota expect that Members of the Minnesota Senate adhere to the highest ethical standards. Using Senate email and listserv to distribute explicit, graphic imagery of children's genitalia damages the reputation of the Senate.
6. It is your complainant's belief that Senator Glenn Gruenhagen violated Senate Temporary Rule 56.3.
7. Your complainant asks that the Ethical Conduct Subcommittee immediately investigates the details of this matter, finds probable cause exists for the violation of Rule 56.3 and that the Committee, in open hearing, recommend appropriate disciplinary action and/or sanction for the violation of our rules.

Erin Maye Quade

Senator Erin Maye Quade

4.19.2023

Date

Subscribed to, and sworn before me, a notary public, on April 19, 2023

Jessica M. Tupper

