



House of Representatives
STATE OF IDAHO
CAPITOL BUILDING
P.O. BOX 83720
BOISE, ID 83720-0038

March 17, 2021

Rep. Sage Dixon, Chairman
House Ethics & House Policy Committee
HAND DELIVERED

Dear Chairman Dixon:

On March 11 a complaint of inappropriate sexual conduct involving a [REDACTED] and Representative von Ehlinger was reported to the Speaker of the House by the Assistant Sergeant at Arms, Kim Blackburn. Upon receipt of this information, it was immediately reported to the Attorney General's Office, who interviewed Ms. Blackburn and determined that the encounter may have violated the House of Representatives Respectful Workplace guidelines. At that time, the Attorney General's Office referred this matter to law enforcement for a possible criminal investigation. An investigation by the Boise Police Department was commenced. On March 12, House Majority Leadership was briefed regarding these allegations. On advice of the Attorney General's Office, no further action was taken by the House Majority Leadership at that time in order to prevent interference with the criminal investigation. On March 16, House Majority Leadership was informed that the law enforcement investigation would not be moving forward at the request of [REDACTED]. Based upon the complaint being brought to our attention, and now that it appears that we will no longer be interfering with an ongoing investigation, we feel compelled to bring this complaint before the Ethics and House Policy Committee.

We, the undersigned, bring a complaint alleging that Representative von Ehlinger has possibly engaged in conduct unbecoming a Representative which would be detrimental to the integrity of the House as a legislative body under House Rule 45(2)(b)(i). Due to the severity of the allegations contained within the complaint, we are referring this matter to the Ethics Committee. It has been alleged that Representative von Ehlinger used his position as a member of the House of Representatives to initiate a sexual encounter with a [REDACTED] of the House of Representatives.

Within the complaint made to the Assistant Sergeant at Arms, it is alleged that Representative von Ehlinger took [REDACTED] to dinner. Following dinner, Representative von Ehlinger took [REDACTED] back to his apartment, saying he had to stop by for something that he had forgotten. [REDACTED] accompanied him up to his apartment. The details of what occurred next are unclear, but at some point, Representative von Ehlinger is alleged to have initiated a sexual encounter with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] reported that at some point she said "no" to the encounter.

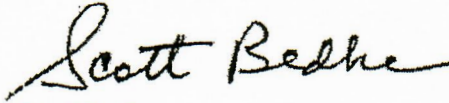
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According to the allegations within the complaint, [REDACTED] did not want this to occur. It is further alleged that she felt she could not refuse because of the power differential between Representative von Ehlinger as a member of the Idaho House of Representatives, and her as a [REDACTED]. It is also alleged that [REDACTED] was also fearful because she believes that Representative von Ehlinger carries a gun at all times.


Based upon our knowledge, the individuals with information regarding these events are [REDACTED] Assistant Sergeant at Arms Kim Blackburn, Detective Monte Iverson, Detective Brandon Joseph, and Representative von Ehlinger. Included with this letter is the statement provided by Ms. Blackburn to the Boise City Police.

The above actions constitute the basis for this ethics complaint. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

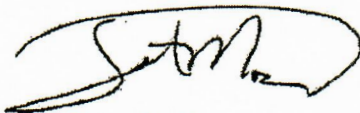
Sincerely,



Rep. Scott Bedke
Speaker



Rep. Mike Moyle
Majority Leader



Rep. Jason Monks
Assistant Majority Leader



Rep. Megan Blanksma
Caucus Chair