



**Carol Roessler**  
STATE SENATOR

September 22, 2003

Sally L. Guenther  
809 Vine St.  
Oshkosh WI, 53901-3665

Dear Sally,

Thank you for your contact on Senate Bill 230, relating to authorizing employees of a school district to subject an individual's blood to a test for the presence of the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

Senate Bill 230 passed the Senate Health Committee 8-1 on September 4, 2003. It is now available to be scheduled for debate by the full Senate. I have put in a request to the Senate Majority Leader to have this bill addressed this fall. If SB 230 passes the Senate, the bill will then be referred to an Assembly Committee. I will contact the chairperson of that committee to make sure he/she is aware of the importance of this bill.

Thank you again for your contact. I will keep you informed as SB 230 moves through the Legislative process.

Sincerely,

CAROL ROESSLER  
State Senator  
18th Senate District

CR:/jhs\DOCS\Jennifer\9-12-03 sb 230 hiv testing.doc

**Guenther, Sally L.**  
809 Vine Ave  
Oshkosh, WI 54901-3665

**Contact Date:** 09/24/2003

**Contact Type:** Phone Call

**Summary:** Supports SB230

**Issue:**

**Position:**

**Description:** Supports the bill that would give schools the right to test for virii that cause AIDS

**Status:** Pending

**Closed Date:**

**Assigned:** Halbur, Jennifer

**Owner:** Halbur, Jennifer

Note      **Note Date:**

**Summary:**

**Contact Type:**

**Description:**

**Meszaros, Dennis**  
1297 Glane Ct  
Oshkosh, WI 54902-9188

Email: clm@northnet.net

**Contact Date:** 09/20/2003

**Contact Type:** E-mail

**Summary:** SB 230 HIV bill

**Issue:**

**Position:**

**Description:** -----Original Message-----

From: Cindy Meszaros [mailto:clm@northnet.net]  
Sent: Saturday, September 20, 2003 8:40 AM  
To: sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: SB230 Blood Borne Pathogen Bill

Dear Senator Roessler, Please support the SB230 Blood Borne Pathogen Bill. We have worked in the mental health field for many years and feel the staff should be protected. My husband was the Director of Education at Winnebago and also a teacher for 35 years and knows first hand the risks the staff has. Thank you, Cindy Meszaros Dennis Meszaros 1297 Glane Court Oshkosh Wi.54902

**Status:** Done

**Closed Date:** 09/22/2003

**Assigned:** Halbur, Jennifer

**Owner:** Halbur, Jennifer

**Note** **Note Date:** 09/22/2003

**Summary:** Sent Dennis and Cindy an e-mail response

**Contact Type:**

**Description:** September 22, 2003

Dear Dennis and Cindy,

Thank you for your contact on Senate Bill 230, relating to authorizing employees of a school district to subject an individual's blood to a test for the presence of the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

Senate Bill 230 passed the Senate Health Committee 8-1 on September 4, 2003. It is now available to be scheduled for debate by the full Senate. I have put in a request to the Senate Majority Leader to have this bill addressed this fall. If SB 230 passes the Senate, the bill will then be referred to an Assembly Committee. I will contact the chairperson of that committee to make sure he/she is aware of the importance of this bill.

Thank you again for your contact. I will keep you up to speed as SB 230 moves through the Legislative process.

Sincerely,

CAROL ROESSLER  
State Senator  
18th Senate District

## Halbur, Jennifer

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**From:** Asbjornson, Karen  
**Sent:** Monday, September 22, 2003 12:24 PM  
**To:** Halbur, Jennifer; Halbur, Jennifer  
**Subject:** New Forward Contact Ownership and Assignment

Constituent: Dennis Meszaros (74585)  
1297 Glane Ct  
Oshkosh, WI 54902-9188

Email: [clm@northnet.net](mailto:clm@northnet.net)

Owner: Halbur, Jennifer  
Assigned: Halbur, Jennifer  
Summary: SB 230 HIV bill

Issue:  
Position:  
Status: Pending  
Contact Type: E-mail  
Description: -----Original Message-----  
From: Cindy Meszaros [<mailto:clm@northnet.net>]  
Sent: Saturday, September 20, 2003 8:40 AM  
To: [sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:sen.roessler@legis.state.wi.us)  
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## Halbur, Jennifer

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**From:** Asbjornson, Karen  
**Sent:** Monday, September 22, 2003 12:25 PM  
**To:** Halbur, Jennifer; Halbur, Jennifer  
**Subject:** New Forward Contact Ownership and Assignment

Constituent: Cindy Meszaros (194630)  
1297 Glane Ct  
Oshkosh, WI 54902-9188

Email: [clm@northnet.net](mailto:clm@northnet.net)

Owner: Halbur, Jennifer  
Assigned: Halbur, Jennifer  
Summary: SB 230 HIV bill

Issue:

Position:

Status: Pending

Contact Type: E-mail

Description: Jennifer - I put it under both Cindy and Dennis because both names are at the bottom of the email. - K

-----Original Message-----

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## Roessler pushes test bill

Provides for blood testing

**By Kevin Murphy**

*Special to the Northwestern*

MADISON – Oshkosh Area School District teachers and administrators are taking a central role in pushing for legislation that would require blood tests for students who potentially expose school staff to the HIV virus.

Proponents of the bill, authored by Sen. Carol Roessler, R-Oshkosh, argue that school staff should have the same protections as public safety employees, who can subject to blood tests those who have potentially exposed them to the virus.

On Thursday, Oshkosh Second Chance teacher Cheryl Hartman told the state Senate Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long Term Care, about an ordeal she endured three years ago after confronting a student who had cut himself while breaking a window.

Hartman, a teacher of emotionally disturbed students, told the committee that the 15-year-old student, who had been placed in a "time-out room" after being disruptive, destroyed a desk and used the pieces to break a window and unlock the door. The boy, who was now bleeding, picked up a baseball bat and threatened to kill a teacher.

When Hartman stepped in front of the student and ordered him to drop the bat, the boy waved his arms causing blood to land in Hartman's eye.

Although Hartman had her blood tested, as did the boy, the boy's parents refused to disclose the blood test results to Hartman until later ordered to in court.

"I was shocked to learn that I had no legal right to ask the student to be tested...Teachers aren't being protected from blood-borne diseases," Hartman said.

After learning that she had not been exposed to HIV, Hartman began calling Roessler to find out how to include teachers in the law that allows police and correctional officers, fire fighters, jailers, employees of secured child care group homes and other health care providers the right to find out what they have been exposed to after coming in contact with another person's bodily fluids.

Linda Stoikes, an Oshkosh school nurse told the committee that two other teachers have since had similar exposures. Without

the bill, teachers are "sitting ducks when it comes to blood borne pathogens," she said.

Roessler introduced a bill two years ago that died in committee.

Now committee chairman, Roessler has reintroduced the bill, which was approved Thursday by the committee, 8-1.

Sen. Timothy Carpenter, D-Milwaukee, said the Legislature has followed federal guidelines to decide who should have the protection Oshkosh teachers now seek. Police and fire fighters face were included because they face exposure to HIV infected persons daily, but teachers weren't included because they face lesser risks of exposure, said Carpenter, who cast the sole vote against the measure.

Instead of including teachers in the law, Carpenter suggested they be issued gloves and take other precautions against HIV exposure. If not, "where do we draw line?" he asked.

Roessler said the bill's requirement that a physician certify that a school employee took precautions against significant exposure presents a sufficient threshold against needless testing of students.

Kevin Murphy is a freelance writer based in Madison.

September 10, 2003

To: Carol

From: Jennifer

Re: SB 230 relating to HIV testing.

Bob Schwoch called to let me know that he is working on amendment language to SB 230. The amendment would give the physician who is determining whether or not an exposure is significant more tools in making his decision. This is not entirely clear but Bob said he is still trying to figure out how the language should read. I think he wants to ensure that physicians can make a determination that, "yes, this exposure was life-threatening or no, it was not."

Bob will have something for us to look at by the end of next week.

Posted Sept. 05, 2003

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**Carol Roessler**  
STATE SENATOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 5, 2003

Contact: State Senator Carol Roessler, 888-736-8720

## Roessler Moves HIV Testing Bill

**Madison...**State Senator Carol Roessler (R-Oshkosh), Chair of the Senate Committee on Health, Families, Children and Long Term Care, held an executive session today on Senate Bill 230. This bill, authored by Roessler, adds employees of a school district, cooperative educational service agency, charter school, private school, the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired and social workers to the list of people who currently can require that the blood of the individual to whom they were significantly exposed, be tested to determine the presence of the HIV/AIDS virus.

“I introduced this bill in response to concerns brought to me by an Oshkosh teacher and the Oshkosh School District. Several teachers in this school district have experienced incidents where they been exposed to student’s blood while on the job. Current state statutes do not provide recourse for school district employees to subject the blood to a test to determine the presence of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and to be informed of the test results. A court order must be filed requesting that the blood be tested. State statutes do, however, provide a right to require testing to several other professionals, including employees of a secured child caring institution, a secured group

home, an emergency medical technician, a person employed at a secured correctional facility, a peace officer, first responders and firefighters” explained Roessler.

“It is very important to note that these individuals must meet the following requirements before a request can be made: (a) The use of universal precautions against a significant exposure at the time of the significant exposure; (b) certification in writing by a physician that the affected person was significantly exposed; and (c) submittal to a test for the presence of HIV within a specified time period,” said Roessler.

“Given the increase of violence in schools and the day to day, one on one, contact school district employees have with children, this bill makes common sense. Teachers and other employers of a school district should be able to take every precaution necessary to determine whether he or she has been infected with HIV after a significant exposure to another person’s blood,” stated Roessler.

Roessler continued, “Senate bill 230 removes barriers to information that affect a person’s health and well being. If a person is significantly exposed to another person’s blood, it is critical that he or she know if they were also exposed to a virus, which if not treated, could worsen and even cause death, “

This bill passed the Committee 8-1 and is now available to be scheduled for a vote by the full state Senate.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 4, 2003

Contact: State Senator Carol Roessler, 888-736-8720

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"I introduced this bill in response to concerns expressed to me ~~from~~ the Oshkosh School District. This school district has <sup>Several teachers in</sup> experienced incidents involving staff members who <sup>where they</sup> have been exposed to student's blood while on the job. However, current state statutes do not provide recourse for school district employees to subject the blood to a test to determine the presence of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). A court order must be filed requesting that the blood be tested. <sup>inclusion</sup> State statutes do, however, provide a right to require testing to several other professionals, including employees of a secured child caring institution, a secured group home, an emergency medical technician, a person employed at a secured correctional facility, a peace officer, first responders and firefighters" explained Roessler.

*Brought to me by an Oshkosh teacher*

*and to be informed of the test results*

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