

Hello – My name is Loren Wendelburg
When I was 10 years old, I was bullied by my 5th grade elementary school teacher.
She was one of the worst teachers I ever had.

She singled me out daily and
Pulled desk out from under me
Pulled me into the hall
Yelled and screamed at me and got into my face
She told me, "You will never amount to anything!"
She snickered at me or sneered, especially when I
had the wrong answer to a question
Restricted me from using the bathroom
She yanked and grabbed personal items from my
hands
She told friends to not play with me at recess

This went on for every single day for months.

This made me feel awful—I did not want to go to
school anymore and I loved school!
I became sick at night and woke up vomiting
I had nightmares because I was worried about going back to school and the teachers
harming me
I thought about killing myself
Finally a classmate, Jake, came forward and told his mom who let my mom know
I was afraid to say anything because I thought it was so unbelievable for a teacher to
bully.

The teacher would not leave me alone and I had to leave my school and friends to be
home schooled.

I was so sad to have to leave my school and my friends — it did not seem fair because I
did nothing wrong, the teacher did something wrong and she got to stay in the same
classroom teaching.

Teachers and school staff should not be allowed to bully students.

Please support HB 2222- Loren's Law- so other kids do not have to go through what I
went through!

Loren Wendelburg
Shawnee, Kansas



Social and Rehabilitation Services (Kansas Department for Children and Families Division of Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services) investigated this teacher's conduct toward Loren for 3 months and interviewed everyone involved. The SRS found this 25-year veteran teacher DID ABUSE Loren and caused him harm.

Loren woke up at night with night terrors and suffered bouts of nausea of vomiting because of fears of returning to school — a school he loved previous to having this bullying teacher.

He was diagnosed with suicidal ideations and PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) at the age of 10 by three health care professionals.

Cannot describe what it is like to have to watch your 10-year-old constantly 24/7 because of fear he may harm himself. We had to hide knives and constantly worry about him harming himself because of this teacher's bullying.

There were no consequences for her actions due to there NOT being legislation regarding school staff bullying students.

Teachers and school staff remain in the classroom even after bullying or abusing students.

We have knowledge from other families that this same teacher bullied several students the previous years without consequences, remaining in the classroom to bully our son. A teacher is setting an example to the other children how to treat other children, including those most vulnerable with special needs.

Our school district has chosen to keep this teacher in her same 5th grade classroom to this very day.

No district or state policy for teacher bullying or abuse in our district and most districts in our immediate area and throughout the state of Kansas. Even after our son's situation came to light, the district we are in has still chosen to NOT have a policy regarding school staff bullying students — and that is why we need this bill.

Only solution was to homeschool Loren in order to ensure his safety.
I am required as a parent under the Kansas law to keep my child safe!
He had to be removed from his friends and the school he loved while the bullying teacher remains.

We have numerous other stories from across the state of examples of school staff bullying. This is not just a county issue or district issue but an across the state issue.
(Brief summary of other cases)

Reference to online petition — nearly 200 signatures from across the state of Kansas in support of bill

Reference to paper on teachers who bully

Of all the current concerns regarding safety in our schools, this bill is a budget neutral avenue to ensure a safe educational environment all Kansas students deserve!

Please support HB 2222 — Loren's Law — to help keep our Kansas students safe in our schools. School should be a safe haven for children — not a place to fear or be harmed.

Lisa Wendelburg
Shawnee, Kansas