

I am thanking you in advance for your support of SF5097.

This bill will protect blind and otherwise disabled parents from losing custody of their children based on their disability.

Through my contact with the National Federation of the Blind I have learned that my blindness need not hold me back from living a full, normal life. I have also learned that, because of the misconceptions of others, parents with disabilities have been subjected to unwarranted discrimination with the end result that their children have been removed from their care.

SF5097 requires that there be evidence of neglect or harm to a child and that assistance be given to parents who might need to learn how to safely care for that child. If it still appears that a child is in danger then the child can be removed from the parent.

It is imperative that Minnesota pass laws that are not based on the ignorance of well-meaning people who should know better.

Again, thank you for passing this legislation.

Judy Sanders: pro 5097

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