



Senator Tim Knopp

Oregon State Capitol
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Senate Passes Legislation to Expand Student Athlete Safety *Senator Tim Knopp Works with Local Athlete to Champion “Jenna’s Law”*

Salem, OR – The Oregon State Senate voted to extend protections to athletes that participate in club sports. The bi-partisan “Jenna’s Law” ([Senate Bill 721A](#)) requires coaches of club sports teams to take free online training on how to recognize and respond to concussions. Senator Tim Knopp worked with Jenna Sneva, a local Central Oregon athlete, to expand precautions that would help coaches identify concussion like symptoms to mitigate further brain damage. The Oregon Concussion Awareness and Management Program estimates that more than 1000 Oregon high school athletes experience a sports-related concussion each year.

“As a parent, the safety of children during sports is very important to me,” Knopp said. “Brain injuries can create long term problem for the children. We need all of our coaches to know how to deal with concussions. I’d like to thank Jenna and her Mother Ronda for working with us to make sure that all of our athletes are afforded the same precautions.”

Previously, “Max’s Law” was passed in 2009 requires public school coaches the same concussion training. However, the law didn’t cover sports outside of public schools and Jenna had suffered from 12 concussions over the course of her athletic career, mainly in club sports. “Jenna’s Law” now heads to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration. It passed the Senate on a 23-2 vote.

Sen. Knopp was previously in the Legislature from 1999 to 2005 for three terms, including one as Oregon House Majority Leader, where he led the PERS Reforms of 2003 that saved taxpayers billions. He was appointed to the Education and Workforce Development and Health Care and Human Services committees for the 2013 Legislative Session. Tim was elected to his first term in the Oregon State Senate in November 2012. Senate District 27 encompasses the Central Oregon communities of Bend, Redmond, Sunriver, and Tumalo.

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Attached:
PDF of Press Release
Picture of Senator Knopp, Jenna and Ronda Sneva at the Capitol.