

# Sen. Kapenga: Kids and masks — parents should decide

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[Madison, WI] — Senate President Chris Kapenga (R - Delafield) released the following statement after both houses of the legislature passed AB 995 allowing parents to opt their child out of wearing a face mask at school:

“Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, school mask mandates have superseded parental rights and impeded, for many children, the ability to effectively learn. I want to make sure that never happens again.

“My bill will allow parents to opt their child out of school mask requirements by simply notifying the school board or an employee of the school district. Parents do not need to fill out a form or provide an explanation, and the child cannot be disciplined by the school for opting out.

“There are a host of valid reasons why the decision about whether a child should wear a mask is best left with parents. Every child is unique, and I want them all to have the best opportunities possible to learn. I believe parents are in the best position to make decisions that have an enormous impact on their child.”