



House Republican Caucus

MEMORANDUM

FR: Rep. Jason Mumpower, House Republican Leader

RE: Rep. Lynn / Rep. Williams Sexual Harrassment Dispute

Date: April 11, 2007

On the advice of counsel, I am preparing this memo for the file in the event of future legal proceedings related to this matter.

On the morning of March 28, 2007 Representatives Susan Lynn and Debra Maggart appeared in my office and asked to meet with me.

Upon meeting with Representatives Lynn and Maggart I could immediately tell they were distraught and upset. Representative Lynn explained to me that she had an encounter with Representative Kent Williams the night before that was upsetting and had made her feel sexually harrassed.

Rep. Lynn explained that she and Rep. Maggart had been in the legislative parking garage following legislative receptions on the night of March 27, 2007. While talking in the garage, Rep. Lynn explained that Rep. Williams entered the garage in the company of Rep. Doug Overbey.

Rep. Lynn said that Rep Williams and Rep. Overbey came up to them. She said it appeared that Rep. Williams was somewhat intoxicated. Rep. Lynn said that when Rep. Williams came up to her he told her how beautiful she was. She said he also told her, "I will give a weeks pay just to see you naked."

Rep. Lynn said she was shocked and began to back away. Rep. Lynn indicated that Rep. Williams repeated the line about "giving a weeks pay" again. Rep. Lynn and Rep. Maggart indicated that they both moved to leave and that Rep. Overbey began to direct Rep. Williams away from the females. Rep. Maggart said that she got into her car and that Rep. Williams leaned into the window and told her how beautiful she was and that he appeared to be staring at her breasts.

Rep. Lynn was quite distraught in recounting the events of the previous evening and expressed great sadness and fear that this event might be repeated. She also expressed much fear that public exposure of this event might unduly malign her name or have an embarassing result on her husband or her children.

Following this initial meeting, I talked with Rep. Overbey and received a third party confirmation of the events exactly as previously described.

In consultation with Rep. Lynn, I convened a meeting with Rep. Lynn and Rep. Williams in my office. Staff members Stephanie Shackelford and Kara Watkins attended as witnesses to the event.

During this meeting, I went over the details of the alleged event as I understood them with both Rep. Lynn and Rep. Williams. Rep. Williams agreed that the events as previously described did occur. He apologized to Rep. Lynn and assured her that the same type of event would never occur again.

After the conclusion of this meeting, I met with House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh and House Chief of Staff Burney Durham and made them aware of the events which had transpired.

Eight days later, on April 5, 2007 Rep. Lynn called me as I was driving home from that week's legislative session.

Rep. Lynn was quite upset and distraught when she called. She told me that she had been standing in the lobby area outside of the House Speakers office talking to Representative Janis Sontany. She explained that while she was standing there, in conversation with Rep. Sontany, that Rep. Williams came up behind her, put his arm tightly around her and embraced her. She said he put his face close to hers and told her, "Have a nice weekend."

Rep. Lynn said she was quite upset at the event and noticed that Rep. Sontany reacted with obvious surprise at the inappropriate physical contact. Rep. Lynn said she was scared that this behavior pattern would repeat itself as she once again felt sexually harrassed.

The next week, on April 10, 2007, I once again met with Reps. Lynn and Williams and my staff. Rep Williams apologized for the event featuring the physical contact and assured Rep. Lynn that it would not happen again.

After the conclusion of this meeting, I once again met with House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh and House Chief of Staff Burney Durham and made them aware of the events which had transpired.