

# Georgia Organization of Mothers of Multiples

## Georgia Twin Legislation

Saturday, October 14, 2006

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Wording of the Minnesota Twin Legislation as reported in The National Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs Notebook, July/August 2005.

S.F. No. 180, 2<sup>nd</sup> Engrossment:  
84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session (2005-2006)  
Posted on March 17, 2005

A bill for an act relating to education; providing for parent discretion in classroom placement of children of multiple birth; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 120A.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Minnesota:

Section 1. [120A.38] [CLASSROOM PLACEMENT; PARENT DISCRETION]

- (a) A parent or guardian of twins or higher order multiples may request that the children be placed in the same classroom or separate classrooms if the children are in the same grade level at the same school. The school may recommend classroom placement to the parents and provide professional education advice to the parents to assist them in making the best decision for their children's education. A school must provide the placement requested by the children's parent or guardian, unless the school board makes a classroom placement determination following the school principal's request according to this section. The parent or guardian must request the classroom placement no later than 14 days after the first day of each school year or 14 days after the first day of attendance of the children during a school year if the children are enrolled in the school after the school year commences. At the end of the initial grading period, if the school principal, in consultation with the children's classroom teacher, determines that the requested classroom placement is disruptive to the school, the school principal may request that the school board determine the children's classroom placement.
- (b) For purposes of this section, "higher order multiples" means triplets, quadruplets, quintuplets, or more.

The Minnesota House passed the twin classroom placement bill with a unanimous vote of 130 to 0.

State Senator Chip Rogers did confirm that he is introducing the bill in the State Senate and that so far he does not have anyone to introduce it in the State House.

State Senator Judson Hill is more than happy to do what he can to help us. He is a twin and he also had twins.

To meet with all the legislators, State Representative Charlice Byrd thinks that would be better severed meeting in the first 2 or 3 weeks of the session since the legislators will be at the Capitol already and things are not usually too hectic. A better option than this is to have each member or group of members from a county setup a meeting locally with that county's legislative delegation or meet with each member of the legislative delegation individually.

The bill will have to go before a committee and the committee then decides if the bill should go forward or not. Usually, when the bill is before the committee, the people who are concerned with the bill have the opportunity to go before the committee to speak. The committee will ask questions about the bill to get a better understanding of it.

Charlie said you may want to have the bill go before 2 committees to have a better chance of getting out of committee:

Children and Youth  
Education

After the bill goes before committee, there may be a study committee put together.

State Representative Charlice Byrd recommended talking to School Superintendents in each county. Charlice wondered if the legislation could be done county-by-county rather than pushed down from the State. In other words, could each County School Board pass similar legislation giving parents the choice as to whether the children can be kept separate or together?