



STATE OF INDIANA  
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**GREG ZOELLER**  
INDIANA ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 10, 2009

Dear Indiana Teacher:

The Indiana General Assembly recently passed important legislation that provides teachers in our public schools the right to take any disciplinary action necessary to promote appropriate student conduct to maintain order in the classroom. This teacher protection act is intended to ensure you are empowered to take disciplinary action as necessary and appropriate under the rules of your school board.

Prior legislation authorized the Attorney General to defend you against any civil suit arising out of a disciplinary action you believe to be necessary and appropriate under the circumstances. The clear intent of this legislation is to reinforce the vital public policy of maintaining order in the classroom so that all students receive the education that our Indiana Constitution guarantees.

The fear of litigation should not limit your ability as a teacher to maintain order in the classroom. It is important you become familiar with the specific policies of your school board as it relates to discipline. There is additional information regarding teachers rights under the new legislation available on my Web site at:

<http://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/press/SchoolDisciplineBill.html>

Please know the attorneys and staff in the Office of the Attorney General and I are proud to serve you and we join in solidarity with the Members of the Indiana General Assembly, Governor Mitch Daniels and Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Bennett, in our support for teachers as you serve this most vital role in providing the children of our state the education they deserve.

Sincerely,

Gregory F. Zoeller  
Indiana Attorney General