

# Oberstar Calls For Franken To 'Disown' Playboy Column

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Congressman Jim Oberstar, the dean of the Minnesota congressional delegation, joined fellow Democrats in criticizing Al Franken's 2000 sexually explicit satirical Playboy column.

Oberstar says in a statement Wednesday that the column was "amateurish and silly, he needs to disown it."

But Oberstar adds that he considers Franken to be bright and hardworking. Oberstar says he expects Franken will receive the DFL nomination this weekend.

Last week, three Democratic Minnesota House members, to varying degrees, criticized the column, which Republicans have been trying to make an issue in the campaign.

Franken campaign spokesman Andy Barr says that the candidate will continue to seek Oberstar's guidance during the race.