

## Rep. Kludt will not be penalized further

The House adopted a recommendation early Wednesday morning that Rep. Kenneth Kludt not be penalized beyond a written apology for conduct that led to his conviction on a prostitution charge. With some members of the House fighting off sleep, the report from a six-member bipartisan ethics panel was adopted at 3:15 a.m. on a one-sided voice vote. The chamber adjourned shortly after the vote was taken.

The Moorhead DFLer said he hopes

the action is the final chapter in a story that has dragged on since his arrest in St. Paul on June 25. The unanimous report found that Kludt's actions were "inappropriate and unbecoming" for a state representative and that his criminal conviction adversely reflected upon the House. It called for its own report and Kludt's written apology to be entered into the House Journal, the official record of its proceedings, to serve as a precedent in disciplining errant House members in the future.