



Representative Lindsey Holmes

House Bill 273 Sponsor Statement

“An Act extending the termination date of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; and providing for an effective date.”

HB 273 extends the termination date of the Department of Public Safety’s Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in accordance with the recommendation of the legislative auditor.

The CDVSA was created in 1981 and since that time the council has served Alaskans by funding and monitoring domestic violence and sexual assault response programs and prevention activities. The council also serves as a coordinator for statewide efforts to end the scourge of domestic violence in Alaska. As noted by Legislative Audit, the council continues to perform these specific tasks:

- Developing, implementing, maintaining, and monitoring domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention programs in coordination with authorities in the field of domestic violence and sexual assault;
- Coordinating services provided by DPS, DOL, DEED, DHSS, DOC and other agencies;
- Overseeing, monitoring, coordinating and dispensing funding for existing and expanding services and programs to meet domestic violence and sexual assault victims’ needs;
- Providing technical assistance to programs and state and community agencies;
- Consulting with public employers and other agencies required to provide;
- Consulting with other agencies required to develop training programs regarding domestic violence and to formulate standards and procedures for delivering services to victims through health care employees and facilities.

With an estimated 75% of Alaskans experiencing domestic violence or sexual assault either first or second hand, it is imperative that you join me in supporting HB 273.