

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Session

State Capitol, Rm. 419
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-2435
Fax: (907) 465-6615

Interim

716 W. 4th Ave, Ste. 540
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 269-0120
Fax: (907) 269-0122



State Affairs Committee

Judiciary Committee

In-State Energy Committee

Joint Armed Services
Committee

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

Sponsor Statement

Senate Joint Resolution 20: Military Sexual Trauma

Senate Joint Resolution 20 addresses the disturbing and all-too-prevalent issue of sexual trauma in the Armed Forces.

Sexual assault and sexual harassment continue to occur in the military despite 25 years of task force recommendations, and congressional hearings, and initiatives by the military. This undermines morale within the military and threatens the strength, readiness of our forces.

Efforts made by the Department of Defense have resulted in a slight increase in reports, but still, victims face threats of retaliation because of the current reporting process. This resolution supports the bipartisan efforts of Congress change the way sexual assault in the military is reported. The proposal to reform the system would allow for a confidential reporting system for individuals who experience sexual assault while serving in the military. S967 the "Military Justice Improvement Act" makes the necessary changes.

This is a nation-wide issue that affects military families across the country. It is critical that Alaskans take a stand against this scourge.