

Grace Kubitz

From: Carly Wells <carlyestherwells@gmail.com>
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To: House State Affairs
Subject: HB20 written testimony

Hi my name is Carly Wells and I work with sexual assault victims in Fairbanks Alaska. I cannot stress enough how powerful and necessary it is to pass HB-20. As you know Alaska is the highest in the nation for sexual assault and we are in the middle of an epidemic. The healing journey for victims is long and painful and difficult, so passing this would give some level of dignity back to them for them to know a time frame on when their kit would be tested, not just afraid its sitting somewhere on a shelf, with no one caring to move forward. Also having a year time frame would give the victim some peace of mind to know they wont be getting called 4 or 5 (or more) years later with the results, which happens often, to many victims nationwide and can seriously derail them in their journey. Passing this bill does not bring excessive costs in getting the kits tested and is showing how much, we as a state, care about victims and getting justice for them in a reasonable time frame. For the sake of the victims, give them back some dignity. Some sense of security in knowing - because the rape itself stripped them of all of that. As someone who hears their stories day in and day out, I can tell you this bill is necessary and incredibly needed in our state.

Thank you.

Carly Wells