
SB 69/HB 62 Sexual Assault Examination Kits/Tracking February 2025

Please accept this statement as support for SB 69/HB 62. The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) is Alaska's state coalition of victim services providers. Twenty-four programs across the state focus on services to victims/survivors of sexual assault, stalking and domestic violence. We support the bill's quick passage.

We appreciate the efforts made by the Governor and the Legislature surrounding the kits over the past few years. SB 69/HB 62 is a further step in securing kits and getting them submitted to the Crime Lab in a timely manner. As important, if not more, are the sections of the bill providing the ability for victims/survivors to track their kit through the process and establishing this ability as a victim's right.

Track Kit has been in use for over a year; providing a way for victims/survivors to be notified as the kit moves through the system-from the healthcare provider to law enforcement, to the Crime Lab; and in the Crime Lab following from the time the lab receives the kit, to when it is tested, to when the results are in. Track Kit provides a critical resource for victims/survivors. We appreciate the work the Crime Lab has done to make it a reality.

Section 3 of the bill requires information from the kit be entered into the sexual assault examination kit tracking system. It clarifies that the information entered into the kit will be entered at the time and in the form and manner specified by the Department of Public Safety. Consistency and uniformity of evidence collection techniques are key aspects to ensuring victims across the state are afforded the same opportunity to have their kits tested by the Crime Lab.

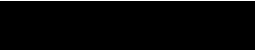
In addition to Track Kit being available to victims/survivors, it also affords the justice system the opportunity to monitor the flow of the kits from one part of the system to the next. We will be able to see if there are bottlenecks prior to the kits getting to the Crime Lab and then the length of time it takes at the crime lab to get kits tested and receive results.

The bill will codify a time frame (14 days) for healthcare providers to notify law enforcement that the kit is available to be sent to the crime lab. It shortens the time for law enforcement to send the kit to the Crime Lab from 30 to 20 days and reduces the amount of time the Crime Lab has to complete kit testing from 6 months to 4. Through Track Kit we will be able to see if this sequence turns out to be a realistic timeframe or if it needs to be tightened or loosened.

Track Kit is primed to be of great benefit to victims/survivors who want to know how the kit is moving forward through the system, and we support putting it into statute.

Member Programs

Anchorage AWAIC, STAR | Hooper Bay Bay Haven | Bethel TWC | Cordova CFRC | Craig HOPE | Dillingham
SAFE | Emmonak EWS | Fairbanks IAC | Haines Becky's Place | Homer SPHH | Juneau AWARE |
Kenai LeeShore Center | Ketchikan WISH | Kodiak KWRCC | Kotzebue MFCC | Nome BSWG | Palmer AFS |
Petersburg WAVE | Seward Seward's Safe Harbor | Sitka SAFV | Unalaska USAFV | Utqiagvik AWIC | Valdez AVV



From: hopeprevention@aptalaska.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:31 AM
To: Senate Judiciary
Subject: SB 69-Sexual Assault Examination Kit Tracking sponsored by the Governor

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for hearing SB 69 regarding Sexual Assault Examination Kit tracking. As a victim service provider, I encourage you to support SB 69 and allow quick passage in the Committee. Sexual Assault Exam Kit tracking allows a survivor to have independence by being able to check on their kits, without having to ask others where their kits are in processing. It is also very important to add to the Victims' Rights Statute that a person has a right to track evidentiary material in their case. This bill will also help survivors potentially get justice quicker in their cases if the kits are moving through the system faster.

As always, we appreciate your support of victim service providers and the survivors that they serve.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Mills
HOPE- Executive Director

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