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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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House District 4
Downtown Juneau
Thane, Lemon Creek
Douglas Island, Airport, and
the Mendenhall Valley to
Stephen Richards Drive

House Bill 242
Sexual Assault by a Health Care Worker
Sponsor Statement
(version A)

A recent high-profile sexual assault case in Juneau exposed a serious loophole in Alaska's sexual assault laws.

Currently, sexual assault by a health care worker in the first and second degree is limited by a requirement that the offender know that the victim is unaware of the sexual contact during professional treatment of the victim.

Passage of HB 242 would remove this restriction, so that victims of sexual assault by a health care worker can be aware that the sexual assault is occurring at the time of the assault for those specific charges to be pursued.

I would be grateful for your support of HB 242.