

From: sart@kwrc.org
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Cc: sart@kwrc.org
Subject: HB 48 Civil Legal Services
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026 11:41:21 AM

Dear Senate Finance Committee

First of all – Thank you all for the hard work and discussions that you have to make.

I would like to see HB 48 Civil Legal Services pass.

This bill raises the percentage of court filing fees from 10 to 25% and that can go into the fund and out to Alaska Legal Services. This is the bill's last committee before getting to the Senate Floor.

Having an attorney makes it more likely survivors will get favorable court outcomes. Victims deal with protective orders, custody, divorce and more. Research shows that legal assistance of any kind will improve the courts outcomes. When a court's rulings are more favorable for survivors, the benefits gained, such as increased physical and economic security, can be life changing. This also helps victims leave their abusive situations and stay safe.

Alaska Legal Services (ALSC) is one non-profit legal organization that assists victims of domestic and sexual violence. The Alaska Native Justice Center, the Alaska Institute for Justice and ANDVSA work with ALSC to ensure as many victims/survivors as possible are served when they seek assistance to navigate the civil justice system. We need a strong well-funded ALSC to participate in this joint endeavor.

In a national study, survivors rated the filing of a protective order as one of the two most effective tools for stopping domestic violence, second only to leaving the perpetrator while trying to be safe.

Thank you for your legislative participation,

Penny Lampl

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