

From: [Charlene Dolphin](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Cc: [Sen. Matt Claman](#); [Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson](#); [Rep. Alyse Galvin](#)
Subject: Support of SB 53
Date: Sunday, April 16, 2023 8:59:58 AM

I am writing in support of SB 53. I, along with most other Alaskans, was appalled to learn that a mentally incompetent person who stabbed a woman had been released in a prior case because he had been found incompetent, and, if I understand the case correctly, the state did not follow up on an involuntary civil commitment. This bill is a step in the right direction to require the state to take steps to ensure that a mentally incompetent person charged with a violent crime is held for treatment for up to 5 years. This bill does not affect the mentally incompetent person from having an attorney, doctor, and regular court hearings and procedures.

I would encourage legislators to continue to work with concerned agencies and citizens in the future to determine other possible changes to this law to improve the protection of citizens.

Thank you.

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