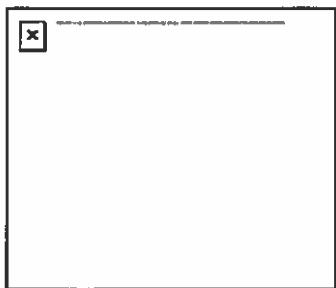


## Jody Simpson

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**From:** Judy Andree <jagster42@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 08, 2018 3:24 PM  
**To:** Sen. David Wilson; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Tom Begich  
**Cc:** Rep. Ivy Spohnholz  
**Subject:** Support for HB 138 from League of Women Voters of Alaska

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed



League of Women Voters of Alaska

P. O. Box 22048, Juneau, AK 99802

March 8, 2018

Dear Members of the Senate Health & Social Services Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Alaska strongly supports HB 138, an act establishing the month of March as Sobriety Awareness Month. The League of Women Voters of the United States has been concerned for decades with health care issues and the education of the populace on matters relating to the maintenance of good health. HB 138 has as one of its goals an increase in public awareness of the prevention and treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, and misuse of other hazardous materials. Misuse of mood-altering substances can and do cause great harm to individuals, families, and communities. Alcohol and other addictive substances cause abuse, neglect, domestic violence, financial problems, and even death. Dependency on any of these substances is an illness, but too often those dependent are blamed rather than assisted in recovery.

Celebrating sobriety is a positive way to educate the public about the benefits that accrue from a sober lifestyle. Given the issue of substance abuse and its history in Alaska, dedicating March to sobriety awareness is a wise step. We urge the Senate Health and Social Services Committee to support this bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judy Andree, President

League of Women Voters of Alaska