



300 North Willow St.
Wasilla, AK 99654
907-373-4357

www.myhousematsu.org
myhousematsu@gmail.com

4/9/2025

Board of Directors:

Dave Balmer, President
Michael Carson, Vice
President
Stephanie Berta, Treasurer
Cathy Cottle, Member
Kurt Hoenack, Member
Isaac Smoldon, Youth
Representative

**Youth Board of
Directors:**

Odessa Jackson, President
Maggie Edwards-Jones
Jamin Kamm
Timothy Keena
Brendan Haines
Raven Evan
Ashton Engebretsen
Michelle Parker

Honorary Members:

Jess Lederman
Holly Gittlien
Mitchell Slater

Dena'inaq elnen'aq'
gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu.
(Dena'ina)
*I live and work on the land
of the Dena'ina. (English)*

Representative Andrew Gray
April 9, 2025
Alaska State Capital
Room 118
Juneau, AK 99801

Representative Gray,

On behalf of the clients of MY House, I would like to officially thank you for your work on HB 101, Crimes Against Minors, and write in support of the passage of this legislation. The staff and clients of MY House believe that HB 101 will both provide justice for minors who are survivors of sexual assault and will also prevent the victimization of future youth by closing current loopholes in statute.

MY House is a youth drop-in center in Wasilla that serves at-risk youth ages 14-25 from around the State of Alaska. We provide stable housing to youth that are couch surfing, living outside, sleeping in cars, or residing in generally unsafe situations. Our organization also gives our clients access to comprehensive wrap-around services, with on-site case management, peer support, substance abuse treatment, shower and laundry services, and meal assistance.

Because of the nature of our work, many individuals we serve are survivors of abuse. This includes under-18 clients that are extremely vulnerable to predators looking to use existing statute to abuse and exploit them.

The passage of HB 101 will assist us in the prosecution of these perpetrators of sexual assault by removing their ability to claim consensual relations with 16- and 17-year-olds. Furthermore, we believe that the passage of this bill will deter predators from targeting members of this population in the first place.

This legislation is incredibly important to us, as we believe the effects of its passage will assist us and the State of Alaska in the combating of sexual abuse, trafficking and domestic violence. We thank you for your work on this issue and look forward to the positive impact it will have on our clients and our state as a whole.

Respectfully,

Michelle Overstreet
Founder and CEO of MY House