

Stuart Relay

From: Amber Nickerson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 8:00 AM
To: House State Affairs
Cc: Antonia Commack; Rep. Robyn Burke; La Creatia Wilson
Subject: House Bill 170 Strengthening Alaska's Failure to Report Statutes (Kathleen's Law)
Attachments: HB 170 - Kathleen's Law.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

House Bill 170 Strengthening Alaska's Failure to Report Statutes (Kathleen's Law)

April 28, 2025

Dear Esteemed State Affairs Committee Members,

There is a critical gap in Alaska's legal framework regarding failure to report a violent crime against an adult. Right now, Alaska Statute [AS 11.56.767](#) lacks mandatory obligations for witnesses to report crimes such as murder, kidnapping, or sexual assault. Under the existing statute AS 11.56.767, the failure to report a violent crime is classified as a violation, carrying a penalty of a **mere \$500 fine**.

This gap creates a dangerous situation where individuals can knowingly fail to report violent crimes, hindering justice and endangering the community's safety. It also allows those with knowledge of violent crimes to avoid being held accountable.

This issue was highlighted by the involvement of Ian Calhoun in the Brian Steven Smith case. [Smith was convicted in Anchorage in 2024](#) of multiple violent crimes, including the brutal murders of two Alaskan Native women, Veronica Abouchuk and Kathleen Jo Henry. [Text messages strongly suggest that Calhoun was in communication with Smith during the murder of Kathleen Jo Henry and met with Smith later when her body was in the back of Smith's truck.](#) Despite Calhoun having this knowledge and even warning Smith when Kathleen's body was found, **Calhoun has not been charged with any crime**. Furthermore, the only crime he *could* have been charged with under the current law is AS 11.56.767, which is a minor violation with only a \$500 fine. [As John Skidmore, Alaska's Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Division, explained, "While the person's actions were unethical and reprehensible, there is no evidence that Smith was aided in any way by this text message exchange. Under Alaska law, there is no general duty for citizens to report a crime or to aid law enforcement or the criminal justice system."](#)

Modeled after laws in other states like [Texas](#) and [Ohio](#) that have implemented stricter penalties, this proposed legislation will bring Alaska's legal system in line with best practices, improve public safety, and promote accountability. It will give law enforcement an important tool to track individuals involved in violent crimes, enhancing oversight and investigations. While it will not hold Ian Calhoun accountable for his past inactions and questionable involvement, it represents a crucial step toward a safer future for Alaska.

I urge you to support House Bill 170 to strengthen our criminal justice system and better protect our communities. Thank you for your time and dedication to our state.

Sincerely,

Amber Nickerson



Stuart Relay

From: Sarah Lewis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 24, 2025 10:21 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Sarah Lewis

Stuart Relay

From: Kim Arey [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 1:55 AM
To: Sen. Matt Claman; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; House State Affairs
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Arey

Stuart Relay

From: sara thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 2:25 PM
To: House State Affairs; Senate State Affairs
Cc: Sen. Matt Claman; Rep. Robyn Burke
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Alaskan Lawmakers,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law —SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

Please pass this law with urgency for the way too numerous women and men who have been murdered in Alaska, and especially the many unsolved cases. We owe our lost relatives action to make the consequence for murder along with knowing and not saying anything, and aiding and abetting, actually punitive. We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Sara Thomas
Anchorage resident

Stuart Relay

From: Gaby Shelton [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 1:38 PM
To: House State Affairs; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; Sen. Matt Claman
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

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We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,

Gaby Shelton, MSW
Providence
Medical Social worker

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

Stuart Relay

From: Ina Pleasant [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 12:31 PM
To: House State Affairs; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; Sen. Matt Claman
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

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We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Ina Pleasant

Stuart Relay

From: Antonia Commack [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 9:27 AM
To: House State Affairs; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; Sen. Matt Claman
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Legislators,

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We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Antonia Unaqsiq Commack
Resource Coordinator at Data for Indigenous Justice

Stuart Relay

From: diva velez <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 3:36 AM
To: Sen. Matt Claman; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; House State Affairs
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Enaa Baasee'

Sincerely,

Diva Velez

Stuart Relay

From: Paulianne Schaeffer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 9:25 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law, SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Paulianne Schaeffer

Stuart Relay

From: Mona Brown <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 4:42 PM
To: Sen. Matt Claman; Senate State Affairs; House State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Mona Smart

Stuart Relay

From: Willie George Nelson Sr. [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 1:00 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Work for The People

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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I have been seeing for quite a while as to how injustices have been towards my people. If you don't give us priority pertaining to things that need change for good, I curse you, in the name of the LORD. Amen.

Stuart Relay

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 12:56 PM
To: House State Affairs

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Catherine Pleasant
Quinhagak resident and long distances relative of Kathleen Jo Henry

Stuart Relay

From: Angalic Herd <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 12:08 PM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Angalic Herd
Anchorage, AK

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Stuart Relay

From: Angela Penatac [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 11:55 AM
To: Sen. Matt Claman; Senate State Affairs; House State Affairs
Subject: Kathleens Law - Public Safty should be priority

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Angela Penatac

Stuart Relay

From: Candace Atchak [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 11:54 AM
To: Sen. Matt Claman; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; House State Affairs
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Thank you,
Candace Atchak

Stuart Relay

From: Erin Messmer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 11:42 AM
To: House State Affairs
Subject: 📧 Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Erin Messmer
Mat-Su Resident

Stuart Relay

From: Antonia Commack [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 10:48 AM
To: House State Affairs; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; Sen. Matt Claman
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Antonia Unaqsiq Commack
Resource Coordinator at Data for Indigenous Justice

Stuart Relay

From: Crystal Howard [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2025 3:46 PM
To: Sen. Matt Claman
Cc: Senate State Affairs
Subject: Urgent: Please Prioritize and Pass Kathleen's Law (SB155 / HB170)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to urge you to take immediate action to move forward and pass Kathleen's Law (SB155 / HB170). This crucial bill addresses a dangerous loophole in Alaska law that allows individuals to witness violent crimes—including the presence of a deceased victim—and face little to no accountability for failing to report it.

This is not just a legal issue, it's a matter of public safety and basic human decency. The fact that this bill comes at no cost to the legislature makes its delay even more frustrating. Law enforcement needs the proper tools to ensure justice is served, and victims and their families deserve better.

Please don't let this bill fall through the cracks. We cannot wait another year to fix this. I ask you to prioritize and schedule a hearing for Kathleen's Law immediately.

Thank you for your time and commitment to justice.

Sincerely,
Crystal Howard

Stuart Relay

From: Catherine Beebe [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 19, 2025 9:29 PM
To: Sen. Matt Claman; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; House State Affairs
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Catherine Beebe
Eek / Quinhagak, Alaska

Stuart Relay

From: Gina Angaiak [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 19, 2025 6:41 PM
To: Sen. Matt Claman; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; House State Affairs
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Regina Angaiak
Native Village of Tununak

Stuart Relay

From: Antonia Commack [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 19, 2025 4:58 PM
To: House State Affairs; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; Sen. Matt Claman
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB17

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Antonia Unaqsiq Commack
Resource Coordinator at Data for Indigenous Justice

Stuart Relay

From: Marcella Boskofsky-Grounds <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, April 19, 2025 4:05 PM
To: Sen. Matt Claman; Senate State Affairs; Rep. Robyn Burke; House State Affairs
Subject: Please Support and Prioritize Kathleen's Law – SB155 & HB170

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Legislators,

I'm writing to ask you to support, prioritize, and move forward Kathleen's Law.

SB155 and HB170.

This legislation closes a dangerous gap in our laws and gives law enforcement the ability to hold people accountable for failing to report violent crimes. This is a public safety issue that affects all of us, and the bill comes at no cost to the legislature. Please make sure this bill doesn't stall and gets the hearing and attention it deserves.

We need to pass Kathleen's Law now.

Sincerely,
Marcella Boskofsky-Grounds
Sent from my iPhone