
From: Virginia Walsh <Virginia.Walsh@north-slope.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 06, 2025 4:03 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB62,

Good afternoon,

Arctic Women in Crisis in Utqiagvik fully supports HB62, the sexual assault exam tracking bill sponsored by the Governor

- Kit-tracking provides autonomy for people to follow the progress of the kits through the system; they don't have to ask anyone to check on the status of the kits
- It is important to add a person's ability to track their evidentiary material as a statutory right in the victims' rights statute
- Reducing and monitoring the time it takes to move the kit through the process steps will be helpful for achieving justice for survivors
- AWIC advocates have seen firsthand how a survivor's ability to monitor the progress of their kit gives them a sense of control which is essential to their healing journey

We would like to thank committee members for supporting HB62 and for supporting services for victims, our Alaskan shelter programs, and for your concern for victims of sexual assault.

Quyanaqpak,

Ginny Walsh, LCSW-C

(she, her)

AWIC Program Coordinator

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Please Remember Mahsa Amini !

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From: Eileen Arnold <eileen_arnold@twcpeace.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 06, 2025 3:52 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Support HB 62

I'd first like to thank the committee members for supporting victims and survivors and the programs that support victims and survivors.

I would also like to ask the committee for their support in passing this bill.

Reducing and monitoring the time it takes to move the kit through the system quickly is very important for survivors.

Last December we saw an acute case of a nine year old girl sexually assaulted by an adult. There was DNA evidence that we were able to locate because of the interview we conducted in our Children's Advocacy Center. It took four months to get the results back showing a positive connection to the man she said had done it. We were all impressed at the speed of four months because it was so much less than our MDT members had seen in the past.

But for the mother of the child it was an agonizingly long wait. Though the offender had left the community, she knew that he was still out there and the team didn't make an arrest until the DNA came back as positive.

Reducing the time it takes the kit to get through the process is not only a justice issue for victims and survivors, but a safety issue if we're waiting for that evidence to facilitate an arrest.

--

Eileen Arnold
She, Her, Hers
Executive Director
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NOTICE-

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