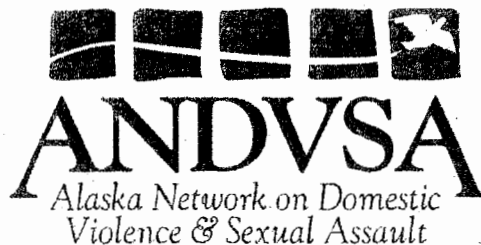


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January 19, 2009

Representative Anna Fairclough
State Capitol, Room 421
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Fairclough:

On behalf of the nineteen member domestic violence and sexual assault programs throughout the state that comprise the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (the Network), thank you for introducing HB 63. ANDVSA works closely with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (the Council) on numerous issues.

I had the honor of serving on the CDVSA Task Force that you helped create with HB 215 in 2007. The CDVSA Task Force reviewed the Council's relationship to other state agencies; their statutory responsibilities and priorities; the appointment process for public members; the location of the Council within the administrative structure; compliance with grant management requirements; and their mission and focus.

We fully support the recommended changes in HB 63. Expanding the Council to include representation from the Department of Corrections (DOC) ensures that DOC has a much needed seat at the table for domestic and sexual violence issues, particularly as they relate to batterer and perpetrator programs. The bill also ensures that public members are indeed public and not governed by any state influences. We also wish to extend our service to the Governor whenever she/he would like our consultation and recommendation for public members. We have consistently put forth qualified individuals who do not have a history of perpetration of domestic or sexual violence; qualified individuals regardless of political party affiliation that balance both Alaska's geography and its urban and rural counterparts. Our services remain there for the asking as the experts in the domestic and sexual violence field for over 30 years.

Thank you for your time and commitment to improving the Council and sponsoring this progressive bill.

Regards,



Peggy Brown
Executive Director

cc: Lisa Mariotti, Policy Research Associate

Member Programs

Anchorage AWAIC, AWRC, STAR Barrow AWIC Bethel TWC Cordova CFRC Dillingham SAFE Fairbanks IAC
Homer SPHH Juneau AWARE Kenai LeeShore Center Ketchikan WISH Kodiak KWRCC Kotzebue MFCC
Nome BSWG Palmer AFS Seward SCS Sitka SAFV Unalaska USAFV Valdez AVV