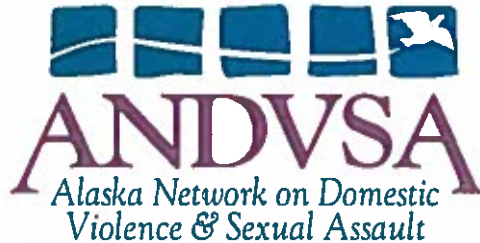


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April 2, 2014

The Honorable Senator Lesil McGuire
State Capitol Bldg., Room 103
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: SB 216 – Sexual Abuse/Assault Programs in the Schools

Dear Senator McGuire:

The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) is a statewide coalition of 23 victim service agencies and affiliates that provide direct services and advocacy for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, including child sexual abuse victims. In addition, our programs provide outreach and education presentations in schools, upon request, as resources allow. Unfortunately, due to limited resources and staff, our programs are not able to fulfill all current outreach requests, particularly in village schools.

Schools are an important partner in our prevention and education efforts and we support the use of new tools to raise awareness, educate and provide critical information about sexual abuse to children. We know from experience, that early prevention and education activities are essential in stopping perpetration before it ever occurs.

Thank you for bringing this important piece of legislation forward.

Sincerely,

Peggy Brown, Executive Director

cc: Lisa Mariotti, Policy Director

Member Programs

Anchorage AWAIC, 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 Seward SCS Sitka SAFV Unalaska USAFV Valdez AVV