

My name is Krista Timlin. I live between Soldotna and Kasilof, in the northern edge of the oddly mapped Senate District P. I am a constituent of Senator Gary Stevens.

I am here to testify regarding my concerns about potential outcomes if SJR 13 is enacted.

The statement put forth by the Sponsor of SJR 13 presents the purpose of this proposed constitutional amendment to "simply allow Alaskans to decide what kind of policy we want in regard to abortion in our state."

I am concerned that the policy the sponsors will likely enact is aimed at effectively *banning safe and legal* abortion access in Alaska, and that the policy will also lead to decreased access for Alaskans to pre-natal and reproductive health care.

The Alaska State House bills that have recently been brought forward could place very narrow policy restrictions: such as on *who* may perform an abortion, the *locations* where an abortion may be performed, and on the *legal status* of whether a pregnancy will be deemed to be the result of sexual assault.

I respect intentions of legislators to enact their values by protecting the life of the not-yet-born human, all the while taking some care to not punish the person who has become pregnant against her will. However, determining policy to accomplish both of the above is something that requires careful deliberation of many factors.

Legislators in other states have attempted to tread this line by "allowing" an abortion to be performed if the health professional performing the abortion has *written proof* that the pregnancy occurred as a result of sexual assault/rape or incest. The "*proof*" being required that the pregnant person has filed a police report. I don't think it requires too much imagination to come up with compelling reasons for why a person who has been sexually assaulted might NOT choose to file a police report.

Placing such narrow restrictions on both care seekers and care providers will have the unintended consequences of not only decreasing access to *legal* abortion--but as has happened in other states--will also create deterrents for health professionals to offer effective pre-natal and reproductive health care services, and for Alaskans to seek that care.