From: Katie Botz

To: House State Affairs

Cc: Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Zack Fields; Rep. Geran Tarr

Subject: Written Testimony on HB182

Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 7:47:28 AM

Katie Botz

Representing: Self

District 34

Good afternoon Mr Chair and members of the House State Affairs Committee, for the record my name is Katie Botz and I will be representing myself.

As a lifelong Alaskan resident who has been victimized of sexual assault, I fully support HB182. There's only one way to fix our crimes and that is to be victim oriented, and by reducing the timeframe for the sexual assault examination kits will do exactly that. I shared my personal story, just last year and as difficult as it was to share with unknown lawmakers, it's crucially difficult to undergo a rape kit.

If Alaska can reduce the timing of the sexual assault examination, it would truly help Alaskan victims to get over the judiciary part of being victimized. On the contrary, the longer that the state is going to prolong such task is going to force the victims to be revictimized. Ultimately, the choice is up to you.

I am truly thankful for Represent Tarr for acknowledging that timing of such matter is critical! It's so true. We still live in the most dangerous state, even with perpetrators being caught, and actions must be followed through with matter of timing! The case where a man has been caught and released just to continue to rape a 4th victim tells me there's work to be done. The case where a state worker who has been sexually abusing people for over 18 years tell me there's work to be done. Timing is critical to place an end for reoffending and causing more victims in our beautiful state.

We all know the statistic: 1 in 3 women will be victims of sexual abuse. The pain. The hurt. The tears are real. They are valid emotions coming from constituents all across the state because they have been evaded. They still need to know that the Stars of Alaska will stand by them. That the Government will hear them, and that they are not alone!

I respectfully request to place this bill through and to remain victim oriented in this process. Something tells me that we are not done, but this is a great step for them mentality of victims of Alaska.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. Thank you for your service.

Katie Botz District 34

Sent from my iPhone