

Submitter: Rachel Freed
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3582

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3582, which seeks to eliminate the statute of limitations for civil actions based on sexual assault or child sexual abuse. This legislation is a crucial step toward justice for survivors and reflects our commitment to addressing the profound impact of these heinous acts.

Survivors of sexual assault and child sexual abuse often face immense barriers when seeking justice. Many individuals may take years, or even decades, to come forward due to fear, trauma, or societal stigma. By eliminating the statute of limitations, we acknowledge that healing is a personal journey and that survivors should have the opportunity to seek justice on their terms, regardless of when the abuse occurred.

Furthermore, this bill sends a powerful message that our society stands firmly against sexual violence and is committed to supporting survivors. Allowing individuals the time they need to come forward empowers them to reclaim their narratives and hold perpetrators accountable for their actions. It is essential that we provide a legal framework that prioritizes the needs and rights of survivors.

In addition, eliminating the statute of limitations aligns with the growing recognition of the long-lasting effects of sexual abuse. Research shows that the trauma from such experiences can have profound implications on mental health, relationships, and overall well-being. By enabling survivors to pursue civil actions without time constraints, we can help facilitate their healing process and promote a sense of justice and closure.

This legislation also serves to deter potential offenders by reinforcing the message that sexual violence will not be tolerated and that accountability is paramount. A society that protects and supports its most vulnerable members is a society that values justice and equity.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB 3582 and urge you to advocate for its passage. By eliminating the statute of limitations for civil actions based on sexual assault and child sexual abuse, we are taking a significant step toward justice and healing for survivors. Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and for your commitment to creating a safer and more just society.

Sincerely,