

April 28, 2021

Assembly Committee on Judiciary

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to request support for SB 177. In 2003 I was a victim of an attempted sexual assault. A man followed me into my apartment building late at night after I got home from work. I was able to fight him off, however this is not the case for most victims. In that way, I guess you could say I was lucky. But not really. At the time I was not offered any support services, and when I saw him strolling down a sidewalk near the complex a few weeks later, the police ignored my phone calls. They endlessly redirected me, and never called back. 18 years later I still deal with the aftereffects of this incident, including not being able to sleep without checking to ensure all windows and doors are locked. I constantly scan my surroundings when I go to and from my vehicle. Anytime I see a reference to the game system Atari, the incident replays in my mind because of the logo on his t-shirt. Had I been referred to an Advocate at the time, I may have been able to process the incident more effectively, as well as get law enforcement to act when I saw him in public. A potential rapist walked free without consequence.

Assembly bill 176 in 2019 established the Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights, which included the right to consult with a sexual assault victim advocate during a medical examination or interview with law enforcement. As a victim of an attempted sexual assault who was failed by the police, I cannot stress enough how important this right is to victims. This included a study that determined NV would need to add 2019 more advocates to ensure consistent available access to advocates for sexual assault survivors.

Please support victims who are not so "lucky" and pass SB 177.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Flory