



**Kristie Wolff – Communications and Engagement Coordinator,  
Central Dakota Forensic Nurse Examiners**

**Support SB 1518  
North Dakota House Judiciary Committee**

February 1, 2023

Chairman Klemin and members of the House Judiciary Committee, my name is Kristie Wolff, I am the Communications and Engagement Coordinator for Central Dakota Forensic Nurse Examiners (CDFNE).

I am submitting testimony in support of SB 1518 with amendments.

CDFNE is a North Dakota based non-profit organization providing forensic medical services to children and adult survivors of sexual assault in western North Dakota. Our organization serves individuals in 23 counties, with our headquarters in Bismarck. CDFNE nurses work with a variety of partners including law enforcement, advocacy agencies, and children's advocacy centers, as part of local sexual assault response teams. CDFNE currently has 22 Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners on staff who work throughout our service area.

Whether in the acute, delayed, or follow-up setting, our nurses see firsthand the effects of sexual violence. Sexual violence can have lasting impacts on a survivor's life. Therefore, we believe that trauma-informed care, privacy, safety, and the rights of survivors are vital. We must do all we can to lessen the burden on those who were assaulted and provide them with as many tools as possible to help them to reclaim their lives.

CDFNE has concerns with the original version of this bill. We have worked with the bill sponsor and other advocacy organizations regarding those concerns, which were addressed through amendments.

Therefore, today I am asking you to give a DO PASS recommendation to SB 1518 with amendments.

Thank you,  
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