

Madam Chair Larson and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the public hearing of HB 1145 on the Senate side. I am asking you to consider a longer time frame for victims of sexual assault to come forward. The current statute for adults over the age of 18 to come forward is three years. Earlier in this session the House moved the time frame to seven years. Although this is progress, it is NOT long enough. Victims under the age of 18 have 21 years. I am asking for your support, advocating 21 years for ALL Sexual Assaults, regardless of age. This is a traumatic life event and as such should be recognized as different for every individual. Please consider and support the longer time frame of 21 years.

Respectfully, Steve Brannan, retired educator, parent, grand-parent, husband, and proud ND citizen.