



BILL A1074



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ABSTRACT

Bill A1074 was first introduced back in 2000. This bill has evolved into what it is today. These modifications allow the survivor to have more control over who can be with them during an exam. This gives them the right to stop the exam or certain parts of the exam. Most importantly, it allows survivors to have a support system in the room. These advocates are there to inform them of their rights and help them advocate for their needs during this difficult time.

NATURE OF THE PROBLEM

Sexual Violence is one of the most underreported crimes in America. This is due to the negative stigma surrounding sexual violence; which prevents survivors from coming forward and reporting the assault

INCIDENCE OF THE PROBLEM

- It is estimated that every 68 seconds there is a sexual assault in America
- 1 out of 6 women (90%) have experienced sexual violence
- 1 out of 33 men(10%) have been sexually assaulted
- 60,000 children have experienced sexual violence

SPONSORS AND CO SPONSOR

Gary Shafer (District 36)
John F Mckeon (District 27)

WHAT THE BILL SAYS

- Anyone who is a survivor of a sexual offense has the right to have an advocate with them
- The survivor must be 13 years or older to have an advocate with them
- The survivor will have a script read to them informing them of their rights, their required consent to the exam, and each member of SART (Sexual Assault Reponse Team)

WHY SUPPORT THIS BILL

- This will allow survivors to have a support system in the room with them to help advocate for their needs
- This will help the survivors to know their rights during any exam or interviews
- This will connect the survivors with other resources such as counseling or legal advocacy

WHAT CAN WE DO TO SUPPORT SURVIORS

1. We can first start believing when someone discloses about their assault
2. Educate about consent and spread awareness
3. Talk to legislators since this bill is up for review

SUMMARY OF THE BILL

Allows survivors to have the right to an advocate with them during an exam or any kind of police or prosecutor's interview. This advocate is a trained confidential support system that a survivor of sexual assault can have with them. A nurse, police officer, or prosecutor should inform survivors of these rights. If a survivor consents then a CSVA (Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate) will be notified and will respond within an hour.