



Sha'a Ka Atyátx'i Noowú  
DOVE COTTAGE  
A Place of Peace

## Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies "Serving Juneau and Nine Southeastern Communities"

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April 6, 2016

To: Senator Peter Kelly  
Senator Anna MacKinnon  
Senator Peter Micciche  
Senator Click Bishop  
Senator Mike Dunleavy  
Senator Lyman Hoffman  
Senator Donald Olson

Dear Senators:

I am writing in strong support of reinvestment dollars in SB91 the criminal justice reform bill focused on funding for domestic violence and sexual assault prevention programming. As you know, the rates of violence against women and children in Alaska are very high, and the need for prevention matches that. Alaska based research (the Alaska Victimization Survey) indicates a strong correlation between our recent prevention efforts (the last 5 years) and rates of violence against women, which were reduced by 5% over the 5 year period.

Please keep prevention dollars to the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault at the proposed \$2.5M amount. Prevention efforts work, and at AWARE, our work with Girls on the Run of Greater Alaska indicates significant skill building for young girls, and this program has a fiscal cost. Our local work with engaging boys and men, and engaging our community partners in prevention work, also has a fiscal cost. Our work with youth also comes with a fiscal cost. We rely on prevention funding to support our programming, because we know that domestic and sexual violence are 100% preventable. To reduce domestic and sexual violence in Alaska, we need prevention funding. I urge you to include \$2.5M in prevention for CDVSA as written in the reinvestment portion of SB91. This IS reinvestment at its best, with dedication to reducing victimization, and empowering Alaska's youth.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Saralyn Tabachnick, M.Ed., LPC  
Executive Director

