## State of Kansas House of Representatibes

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Ponka-We Victors Representative, 103rd District

February 20, 2013

Dear Chairman King and Senate Judiciary committee,

Today I stand in strong support of SB 167, which will amend the statute of limitations for rape and other sexually violent crimes. This bill would allow the victim who was raped or is a victim of other sexually violent crimes, he or she has up until the time they turn 28 years of age to come forward and identify their accuser.

I am supporting this bill because I have constituents who have come to me confidently and requested these changes. This group of young women has confided to me that they were abused at a young age, but did not have the courage to speak out until much later. By that point, according to our current statute of limitations, it was too late to prosecute those who had harmed them. This is why I feel strongly that these victims should have the opportunity to come forward when they are at a point in their life where they have matured, gained confidence, and courage. This bill is a positive change to the current law not only because it is important to my constituents, but also too many other victims in Kansas who have suffered horrendous acts against them. Therefore, this is why I please ask you to pass out SB 167 favorably out of committee.

Sincerely,

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