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Minnesota Senate Judiciary Committee  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Members of the Committee:

As a member of the Survivors Advisory Group of four Coalitions: Sacred Hoop Tribal Coalition of Mending the Sacred Hoop (MSH), Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition (MIWSAC), Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA), and Violence Free Minnesota (VFMN), who provide support for Sexual Assault victim/survivors within their perspective organizations, I am writing to express my support of SF 2019, a bill to require forensic labs to test sexual assault kits within 90 days, update kit-tracking database when complete, and notify if there is a delay in testing kits and give an estimate time frame for completion.

The goals and duties of the Survivor Advisory Group is to:

- Bring the expertise of Survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) to inform the policy work of the coalitions with the specific focus on informing policy work from the Governor's Office and other state departments.
- Raise questions about policy and practice of government departments related to GBV.
- Present ideas for possible changes to governmental policy and practice.
- Provide feedback on ideas raised by coalitions and within the Advisory Group.
- Provide feedback on policy and practice proposals from various government departments.

As a survivor of sexual assault, having to wait for the testing of the sexual assault kit, let alone having to ask Law Enforcement, repeatedly, for the results of the tests is traumatizing in an of itself. While waiting for the testing of the sexual assault kit, I was not sure of whom the perpetrator was as he covered his face and beat me repeatedly in the face. I wasn't sure from whom I should be cautious of because I did not know who the perpetrator was. How do I keep myself safe if I do

not know from whom I am to be afraid of? I cannot imagine having to be on guard indefinitely. Living with that fear indefinitely. Having timely testing sexual assault kits will help victim/survivors will give survivors some relief as to who a perpetrator is or a way of knowing in the future of a possible match to evidence for you or another victim, as the perpetrator who raped me was a serial rapist.

I hope this testimony will help in getting bill SF 2019 to ratification and became law in the State of Minnesota.

With Respect,

Lisa Marie Iyotte