



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

**REPRESENTATIVE RUTH C. FAHRBACH**  
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To: Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor  
Senator Kissel, Representative Farr and Members  
Of the Committee on Judiciary

From: Rep. Ruth C. Fahrbach, 61<sup>st</sup> District

Date: March 20, 2006

Re: rSB 618 AAC THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR THE CRIMINAL  
PROSECUTION OF OFFENSES INVOLVING THE SEXUAL ASSAULT OF  
MINORS

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in favor of rSB 618 extending the statute of limitations for reporting child sexual abuse.

You will hear testimony from a young lady who, for 8 ½ years was sexually abused by a married man and father 23 years her senior. At age 19 she summoned the courage to tell her parents who confronted the abuser ending the abuse. She reported the abuse to the police several months later. Although she had been advised by an attorney that she would have up to 5 years after her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday to report the criminal sexual abuse she was later informed by a police detective and subsequently an Assistant State's Attorney that, in fact, the statute of limitations had already expired. Her own research and the conflicting opinions received from agencies, attorney's and counselors is evidence of the law's ambiguity which the victim is urging you to clarify so that others who are victims of child sexual abuse will not be victimized twice.

As a result of the statute of limitations, her abuser will never been held responsible for this crime and is free to live a normal life without consequence while his victim not only suffers the emotional trauma associated with the sexual abuse but must live with the knowledge that her abuser remains free to abuse again.