

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing, April 4, 2011

Testimony in support of SB 1033, *An Act Concerning the Limitation of Time to Bring a Civil Action for Damages Caused by Sexual Abuse, Sexual Exploitations or Sexual Assault Suffered by a Person Prior to Attaining the Age of Majority.*

My name is Paula Broderick and I am a registered voter from New Britain.

I am the Prevention Education Coordinator for the Sexual Assault Crisis Service of the YWCA New Britain and I was a Safe House Advocate for the Prudence Crandall Center in New Britain.

I am an incest survivor.

I am writing today for myself as well as the numerous people who have honored me by sharing their stories of incest and child sexual abuse. It can be difficult, if not impossible, to understand the pain and humiliation a child experiences when violated sexually. The loss of innocence, coupled with the loss of trust can take decades to heal from. I do not think it is fair that some people needing more time to heal than others should be held against them.

Justice should not have an expiration date.

There are numerous excellent reasons why an adult who was sexually violated as a child may not be able or ready to seek justice by age 48. Each person and case is unique and the law needs to support victims not make their day in court more difficult to accomplish.

I ask that you support child victims of sexual violence by supporting SB 1033.