

I oppose SB26-111, Mandatory Prison for SAOC.

Gendreau, P. Goggin, C., & Cullen, F.T. explained in their 1999 paper that “regardless of the type of analysis employed, no evidence for a crime deterrent function was found” from incarceration. The basis for using it as a deterrent is “without empirical support”. They offered that “imprisonment may be reserved for retribution and the selective incapacitation of society’s highest risk offenders”.

Furthermore, they found that “offender treatment programs have been more effective in reducing criminal behaviour than increasing the punishment for criminal acts.” Finally, they found that “for both low risk and high risk offenders, increasing sentence length was associated with small increases in recidivism”. Prevention is a far better approach. After all, isn’t the real goal here fewer child victims? Or is it just retribution and punishment? Keeping violent, repeat sex offenders in prison for long sentences serves to keep that person from re-offending, but serves no other protective purpose. These types of offenders account for only a tiny fraction of all child sex offenders. This approach for all child sex offenders comes with a high price tag when you consider the cost of law enforcement, prosecution, court expenses and then the ongoing yearly cost of incarcerating someone.

Sex offenders have the second lowest recidivism rate, surpassed only by murder (as most of them remain in prison for life). A ballpark figure of 5%-15% across the board for all offender classes, while low risk offenders are 5% or less. Violent crimes, drug dealing and others have recidivism rates in excess of 50%. Low risk offenders who have been in the community offense-free for 5 years have a recidivism rate of about 1.4%, the same as that of the general population, as reported by Dr. R. Karl Hanson in his studies on natural desistance. Mandatory incarceration offers no added benefit. This is also why sex offender registries have been proven to be ineffective at preventing new, first-time sexual offenses and re-offenses. They do not aid law enforcement in solving new sex offense cases because 95% of new sex offense cases against children are perpetrated, not by someone already on a registry, but by family, relatives, close friends, coaches, teachers, pastors or family acquaintances.

Data from the latest studies reveals that people who commit sexual crimes against children, as opposed to crimes of violence which may also include a sexual offense component, are described as Minor Attracted Persons. It is now believed by experts in the field that this is a point on the sexual spectrum like homosexuality, heterosexuality and bisexuality. It is an orientation that is inborn, innate, present at birth, hard-wired in the brain during intrauterine development. Not something that is deliberately chosen. Who would choose this? No one. Therapy for these people focuses on helping

clients understand this about themselves, learning to accept themselves and learning tools for managing their desires without offending and thereby living happy, successful, productive and sexually fulfilled lives. Sadly, in the United States the acceptance of such ideas has been met with derision. Safe, effective and confidential MAP therapy is not widespread or widely promoted and advertised here. What a missed opportunity to help people live successfully with these urges while preventing more child sexual victims and significantly reducing the overall incidence of child sexual victimization. The United Kingdom is far ahead of us in this area, showing very promising results. With limited budgets and manpower, we should look at getting the most bang for the buck. Catching people after committing a sexual offense against a child, prosecuting them and then incarcerating them for long sentences or even life is very expensive, in terms of time, money and personnel. A far wiser approach would be to expend a fraction of that on prevention--on MAP counseling programs for people before they offend.

I realize this probably flies in the face of everything you have been told and always believed--Get tough on crime, lock them up and throw away the key, if they're in prison they can't re-offend. But at what cost to society and to the potential future child victims out there? Of course, saving some money is great, but saving many children from the horrors of being sexually abused is the greatest payoff of them all.

Evidence over emotion. Facts over fear.

To learn more about this incredible opportunity to really make progress in preventing child sexual abuse I recommend you check out B4UAct.org.

Thank you for thoughtful consideration.

Kyle C. Akers, M.D.

Colorado Springs, CO

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

Senate Judiciary

03/18/2026 01:30 PM

SB26-111 Protections Against Child Rape

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Justyna Madenska For themselves	<p>Dear Senators and Representatives,</p> <p>I am writing to express my support for SB26-111, Protections Against Child Rape. Even though I am an advocate and activist who works closely with the SO population, I believe this bill offers balance and fairness.</p> <p>We frequently hear in the news and in court about situations where some individuals receive probation, which can sometimes appear to be only a slap on the wrist, while others receive lengthy indeterminate prison sentences. This bill attempts to address that imbalance in a thoughtful way.</p> <p>Sexual assault against a child, especially when it involves a position of trust, is an extremely serious offense. We are talking about children who do not have the capacity to fully understand consent and who cannot protect themselves in the same way adults can. For that reason, stronger protections are necessary.</p> <p>In my view, this legislation is long overdue. Establishing clear and serious consequences may help deter these crimes and provide stronger protection for vulnerable children.</p> <p>I understand that you will likely hear testimony from various advocates, including representatives from the Public</p>

	<p>Defender’s Office. However, I believe it is important to remember that as advocates and public servants, we all share a moral obligation to protect those who are most vulnerable.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Justyna Madenska</p>
<p>Jessica Williams Bares</p> <p>Against themselves</p>	<p>I believe this is a bad law because the level of offense is all different and with this law it would be applying the same harsh penalties to everyone. All cases need to be considered individually. The data shows that individuals with a sex offender conviction are the least likely to reoffend and I think this should be considered too. They deserve to do their sentence and get to live life again, especially because they do so much treatment. I work in the criminal justice system and the inmates that I see working the hardest for their future are individuals with S.O. Charges. They show the most remorse and it’s very rare that they will return to prison for new S.O. Charges.</p>
<p>Kelly Scott</p> <p>For themselves</p>	<p>Hello and thank you for the opportunity to submit a written testimony for greater protection for children.</p> <p>Child sex assault is not a crime that should have the ability to bypass prison and the system oversight. Releasing such offenders to parole is a detrimental harm to all. Paroling offenders dismisses and harms done to the child, whose life is forever negatively changed by the offender but, it gives the offender access back into the public where statically they will continue in their abuses; some reports showing up to 13 victims for each offender.</p> <p>Please, support protecting children and bettering life for them and our all by passing this bill.</p>

	<p>Thank you</p>
<p>Alessandra Almeyda For themselves</p>	<p>I, Alessandra Almeyda, fully support this bill as I strongly agree that children need to be protected at all costs!</p> <p>Child predators belong in jail not out in our streets.</p> <p>As a mother this affects me in a very personal level as I fear for what this state has become: a free state for criminals and pedophiles. I no longer recognize this state and it feels like I live in a dystopian reality full of rapists and pedophiles running free because of Democrat policies.</p> <p>I fully support this bill.</p> <p>Please hear the people of Colorado for ONCE!</p>
<p>Jolene Hamann For themselves</p>	<p>My name is Jolene Hamann. I am a veteran, business owner, and most importantly, a mother and grandmother. I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 26-111.</p> <p>As a healthcare provider, I have dedicated my career to caring for women, children, and families. I have seen firsthand how vulnerable children are - and how critical it is that we, as a society, take every step possible to protect them.</p> <p>SB26-111 addresses a gap in current law. As it stands, individuals convicted of certain sexual assault crimes against children may still be eligible for probation rather than incarceration. This bill ensures that for specific Class 3 and Class 4 felony offenses- particularly those involving a position of trust- there is a required period of incarceration.</p> <p>Children depend on adults not only for care, but for protection. When that trust is violated, there must be clear and consistent accountability. In my work, I see the lifelong consequences of these violations. The harm does not end- it follows children into</p>

	<p>adulthood, affecting their mental health, relationships, and sense of safety.</p> <p>As a clinician, I understand that some individuals who commit these crimes may have experienced trauma themselves. But acknowledging that reality cannot come at the expense of protecting children.</p> <p>We can hold two truths at once: people who cause harm may have been harmed-and children still deserve to be protected.</p> <p>Accountability is not revictimization. It is a necessary part of preventing further harm and ensuring community safety.</p> <p>SB26-111 does not expand the definition of these crimes-it ensures that consequences align with their severity and prioritize the safety of children.</p> <p>I strongly support this bill because it sends a clear message: the protection of children must come first.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>jeany rush For themselves</p>	<p>TO: SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE</p> <p>RE: SB26-111 PROTECTIONS AGAINST CHILD RAPE</p> <p>SPONSORS: J RICH, B BRADLEY, R ENGLISH</p> <p>FROM: JEANY RUSH COLORADO CONSTITUENT 3-18-26</p> <p>VOTE: YES “leave those kids alone”</p> <p>Folks:</p> <p>NO CHILD CAN GIVE INFORMED CONSENT!</p> <p>NO CHILD SHOULD EVER BE RAPED, OR HARMED!</p> <p>Sexual abuse offenses have increased by 62.5% since fiscal year 2020. 1.9 million women are estimated to have been raped in the 12 months prior, and an estimated 443,635 of those are 12 or older. (CDC and USSC.gov) Whether a person is mentally unfit, or a criminal, they should not be allowed to be on the street, in the communities, once they have been prosecuted of a crime of RAPE on a child, much less anyone.</p>

	<p>Had there been stricter sentences, some offenders may have been stopped in their tracks. When the punishment does not fit the crime, it will be repeated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> â€¢ 1 in 4 girls is sexually abused before the age of 18. â€¢ 1 in 6 boys is sexually abused before the age of 18. â€¢ 1 in 5 children are solicited sexually while on the internet. â€¢ Nearly 70% of all reported sexual assaults (including assaults on adults) occur to children ages 17 and under. â€¢ An estimated 39 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse exist in America today. <p>30 to 40% of these victims are abused by a family member. Another 50% are abused by someone outside of the family whom they may trust. About 40% are abused by older or larger children.</p> <p>20% of children are sexually abused before age of 8. Nearly 50% of all victims of forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object and other forms are under 12. Many do not TELL anyone.</p> <p>Over 30% of victims never tell anyone. You have protected wolves, dogs, cats, criminals, WHY NOT CHILDREN?</p> <p>This bill imposes a much stricter period of incarceration for certain Felony classes for SEXUAL ASSAULT ON A CHILD! That child will carry this burden forever, shouldnâ€™t the offender pay an equal price? I say if these children are younger, as in perhaps under 8 they should spend life in prison. Some ask for a death penalty. If they are literally mentally unfit, then a mental institution for LIFE! No allowing them OUT! This is Common Sense, and a matter of life and death for an innocent Child!</p>
<p>Brittany Perrotto For themselves</p>	<p>We are the protectors of our kids. This is beyond simple: if you sexually assault a child, you have no place being free in our society. Personally I think 4 years minimum is too lenient but we have to start somewhere. I feel for former victims who become victimizers, but what message does it tell our kids when we let them continue to live down the street while our children try to heal? Stop the insanity and put predators in prison.</p>

<p>Diana Hurst For themselves</p>	<p>Since we don't have castration for pedophiles, then lock their asses up and keep them locked up.</p>
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For community health, the court system needs to be free of statute mandatory punishment in order to make decisions based on witnesses and details concerning the specific offense. The courts must be free to holistically diagnose and sentence based on what's best for the victim, community, and perpetrator and not be bound by legislative mandates. Sexual offense on a child covers a very broad spectrum. It is not the same type of grievance for every conviction. Circumstances and details matter.

My name is Beverly Casey. I was both a volunteer and salaried employee with Circles of Support and Accountability (COASA) in Colorado from 2015-2019. Our mission was for safer communities through support and accountability for individuals leaving incarceration who had been convicted of a sex offense. The vast majority of these inmates leaving prison are not high risk and will never commit another sexual offense. A lengthy indeterminate prison sentence is not the correct answer. Accessible therapy is what brings change and the sooner the better.

Therapy is the mandatory key to best outcomes, not mandatory longterm prison sentencing. With over 1500 state prisons and 100 federal prisons in the United States overflowing with full capacity for decades, it's obvious that longterm prison sentencing is not the answer. Therapy is what makes changes and this is what I suggest the legislature focus on for all crimes. Therapy is more effective and successful outside of the prison walls while interacting with real life stressors.

The vast majority who have committed a sexual offense *can and do* change the thinking that brought them into the courtroom. That change is usually the result of quality therapy, not excessive incarceration.

The reality of getting one's life back on track after a long term indeterminate prison sentence is incredibly difficult. It is often unsurvivable without a lot of family assistance over a sustained period of time, which many families just can't provide. The longterm separation from their families leaves a deep fracture in the family units that continues to take its toll for decades.

Senate Bill 26-111, ***mandatory prison sentences*** under the Lifetime Supervision Act followed by 10 years to life or 20 years to life prison for *all* Sexual Assault does not promote a positive outcome for anyone. I advocate to rethink the SB 26-111 proposal.

Thank you!

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Good afternoon, I would like to begin by thanking the Chair and Committee Members for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Kristina Fedran and I am so grateful to testify in support of HB26-1039. I am 42 years old and a mother to five amazing children ages 10 months, 3, 7, 9 and 11 years old. On September 29, 2019 I was arrested by Commerce City Police on alleged charges of domestic violence. I did not do what I was accused of and those charges have all been dismissed. At the time, I was strictly nursing, my youngest son was 12 months old and had never taken a bottle. For the record, when this occurred I had three children at the time. I was separated from all three of my children even after repeatedly telling officers my youngest was nursing. This was disregarded by officers and Adams County Detention staff. I needed a breast pump and I made them aware of this and nothing was done. While in jail, I became painfully engorged and did my best to compress my breasts with my hand and a wet towel. I was not given pads and leaked through my shirt several times. I was told by the female night guard when I first came in that they do not provide pumps for people like me. By the time I got out of jail my breasts were rock hard, my son had been forced to abruptly stop nursing and I was on my way to drying up.

I asked several of the staff multiple times including one in the control center for a pump and sadly, nothing was done. While I understand there are people in jail that have committed a crime, I was not one of them. It just took awhile to prove that. I am reaching out to you today to request change to how this is handled regardless of whether a person is guilty or not guilty. It is supposed to be in the best interest of the children. That was repeatedly stated in my court proceedings and I am a firm believer in this. However, I do not feel this was in the best interest of my children in this case. I cannot bear the thought of another nursing mother having to go through this. It's weighed way too heavily on my heart and my mind. Something I will never forget no matter how hard I try. I will never get that time back, that bond was broken and there is nothing I can do about it. The damage is done.

I watched my 2 1/2 year old son grab his neck all of the time which he never did before but always did to my breast while nursing. He is now 7 years old and even after all the time that has passed and therapy completed he still grabs his neck; the same way he did when he was nursing and I relive this nightmare everytime I see him do it because I know why. My intentions of testifying today are to tell you my story and to promote change so no other family will be subjected to what my children and I went through. I am standing up for myself and other mothers in the system respectfully and lawfully, not because it's easy but because it's necessary and I ask

for a yes vote on HB26-1039. Thank you for listening. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Kristina Fedran