

My name is Lucia Gonzalez; mother of 3 children, two girls and one boy.

I came today seeking justice for my daughters who were sexually molested by a close family member of ours. We pursued the situation following every step the law suggests hoping that justice would be served. We were frustrated with the legal system when it was learned that nothing could be done because five years had passed; as if the problems were supposed to go away after five years. Now, we stand here asking you to pass this bill to extend the statute of limitation so that the people who commit these heinous crimes get the punishment they deserve. It is crucial that this law be passed so that these mentally ill people can no longer endanger our children. My daughters are not the only ones affected by this man, there are others, and they are also being let down by the system while he continues living as if nothing has happened.

My eldest daughter has had to face many tough obstacles. She has had to go to psychological therapy and has a hard time concentrating in school and on her future. I ask you to pass this bill because this person has harmed many girls, and yet even with his taped confession; nothing could be done because of this statute of limitation.

I speak to those of you who are parents. How would you feel having all of this evidence, and the system, the same system meant to protect us all, saying, "It is too late; nothing can be done"? So please vote in favor for SB167.

Thank you.