

February 6, 2019

Chairman Patton and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to consider HB 2079. Though the spousal exemption for the statute on rape was removed decades ago, this language persists in the statute for sexual battery. I ask the committee to support the removal of this outdated and unnecessary language.

By enacting this change, Kansas can send a message of support to victims of domestic violence. Marriage should not absolve offenders of guilt nor deprive victims of justice. It is time to make this law reflect our values as Kansans. I hope that this committee and the legislature will join together to support this change.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rep. Brett Parker