



Support HB 92, Amendment 2

Protects survivors with outstanding warrants for non-violent offenses from being arrested when they report sexual assault or seek emergency medical treatment or forensic services

Status: Judiciary - Criminal Committee

Sponsor: Rep. Kalish (D-16)

What Does the Bill Do?

HB 92, House Amendment 001, allows a person with an outstanding warrant for a non-violent crime to report sexual assault against them or seek medical treatment for that assault without concern of being arrested for the alleged non-violent crime. The individual will not be arrested but will receive a notice to appear in court instead.

Why Is This Important for Sexual Assault Survivors?

- This bill empowers law enforcement officers to treat survivors in a respectful, trauma-informed manner. When survivors report sexual assault or seek medical services and evidence collection for sexual assault, being arrested and restrained is likely to re-traumatize them and make them feel like a criminal when they are the victim.
- If a survivor is arrested as a result of reporting sexual assault, it is far less likely that the survivor will cooperate with the investigation and prosecution of the crime. This bill supports continued participation by survivors in the criminal justice system.
- If a survivor knows there is a warrant for their arrest, they may choose not to report the crime or not to seek medical care and evidence collection. This bill will remove that disincentive to report and seek medical treatment and medical forensic services.

Why Is This Important for Illinois Communities?

- This bill can help make Illinois communities safer. When the law removes disincentives to report sexual assault and allows survivors to be treated with respect, it is more likely that survivors will come forward to report and participate in the criminal justice system. Without reporting and cooperation by survivors, sexual predators remain free to continue to perpetrate sexual violence in our communities.

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