

State Public Affairs Committee Board 2022-2023

Chairwoman: Susie Sherman-Hall, Birmingham, 248-770-3816, MSC.SPAC.Chair@gmail.com

Vice Chairwoman: Emily Janz, Birmingham, 419-704-5782, emilypjanz@gmail.com
Secretary: Jeannine Lyons, Birmingham, 517-414-0439, jeannine.a.lyons@gmail.com
Training: Amanda Miscisin, Grand Rapids, 616-540-0981, amanda.miscisin@gmail.com

April 11, 2023

House Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of the State Public Affairs Committee for the Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues (MSC SPAC), I am writing to urge the committee's support of the bipartisan package of bills (HBs 4120-125) addressing sexual assault accountability and prevention.

MSC SPAC represents nine autonomous Junior Leagues in the state of Michigan, currently representing approximately 2,000 women statewide. All nine Leagues collectively advocate for policy that will improve quality of life outcomes in each of our communities and statewide. Our mission is: "to promote volunteerism, develop the potential of women and improve the community through the effective action of trained volunteers." As you may be aware, the Junior Leagues have a legacy of successfully advocating for bipartisan policies that prevent and address human trafficking, improve our foster care system, and provide support for victims of domestic abuse and violence.

These bills have been informed by hundreds of pages of documents, many weeks of past committee hearings, and consultation with survivors, experts, community organizations, advocacy groups, educators, parents, and others to ensure they were approaching the issue of sexual assault from every angle, sealing cracks in the law that may allow future predators to get away with such a heinous crime.

As you know, the proposed reforms would:

- Require schools to be a source for prevention of sexual assault through various educational materials and training programs
- Prohibits sexual contact and sexual penetration under pretext of medical treatment and provides penalties
- Limit and clarify how medical procedures on minors are preformed and by whom
- And modify sentencing guidelines

The current bill package is in it's fourth session. In previous years, the bills received hearings where testimony was overwhelmingly supportive, with no detractors or opposition. With your support and leadership, we are certain that passing this legislation will make a real difference in sexual assault accountability and prevention. Thank you for considering the views of the Junior Leagues of Michigan.

Best regards,

Susie Sherman-Hall
Chair, State Public Affairs Committee Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues