



**Testimony of Diane Moyer, Esq.
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**Hearing before the
U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget**

Good Morning, Senator Toomey.

My name is Diane Moyer. I am Legal Director of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (or "PCAR"). I want to thank Chairman Enzi, Ranking Member Sanders, and you, Senator Toomey, for the opportunity to testify here today.

For the past 18 years I have been the Legal Director of PCAR, the oldest anti-sexual violence coalition in the nation. As part of our mission, we advocate for the rights and needs of victims of sexual assault. I have worked at the state and national level to achieve justice for victims and resources for the advocates who provide services. I have received awards for my service from the National Crime Victim Law Institute, the Victim Rights Law Center, and the YWCA Violence Intervention Program. I have contributed to a collective of advocates working on the Violence Against Women Act since 1998, focusing on provisions regarding sexual assault. I am a board member of the National Crime Victims Law Institute and the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence. I am a member of the Pennsylvania and American Bar Associations and former member of the ABA Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence. I have been published in the Encyclopedia of Sexual Violence and publications from the Weekly Reader to the Washington Post.

At the state level, I have worked on legislation to mandate prevention education for incoming students at institutions of higher education, HIV testing of sex offenders, the right for adult victims of child sexual abuse to remain anonymous, an extension of the civil statute of limitations for child sexual abuse, a bail provision that allows for denial of bail to violent predators, Megan's law, sexting legislation for minors, a protection order for victims of sexual assault, modifying the wiretap law to allow for pre-text calls for

crime victims, trafficking legislation, a provision to allow expert testimony in sexual assault cases, a revision of the child protection laws, ensuring the right of victims to testify at parole board hearings, revenge porn legislation and annual efforts to ensure funding for advocates to provide services to victims in every county in the Commonwealth.

I want to thank you, Senator Toomey, for your unwavering commitment to victims of sexual assault.

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape is proud to support the Protecting Students from Sexual and Violent Predators Act, the bipartisan bill introduced by you and Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia. The bill works to stop sexual predators from infiltrating our children's classrooms by requiring schools that receive federal funds to conduct background checks on employees. The bill also forbids a school from allowing a child molester to resign quietly and then find a new teaching job elsewhere.

We thank you for co-sponsoring the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, which the President recently signed into law. Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery. Vulnerable people—often women and children—are forced into prostitution, often raped hundreds or thousands of times. We appreciate your leadership in ensuring that traffickers are punished and that additional funds are available for victims of trafficking.

We are also happy to have had the opportunity, these past months, to work with you in drafting the Fairness for Crime Victims Act, which will ensure a steady, increased funding stream from the Crime Victims Fund.

While some of our elected officials voice support for victims of sexual assault, you have acted. While others join the occasional bill and then forget it when they face any opposition, you have been unrelenting in fighting for victims of sexual assault—continuing to fight on both the Protecting Students Act and restoring fairness to the Crime Victims Fund, despite opposition and obstacles.

PA Coalition Against Rape

PCAR

The mission of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape is to work to eliminate all forms of sexual violence and to advocate for the rights and needs of victims of sexual assault.

Each year Pennsylvania rape crisis centers provide confidential services, at no charge, to approximately 30,000 men, women and children affected by sexual assault.

Founded in 1975, PCAR works to end sexual violence and advocates for the rights and needs of sexual assault victims. PCAR partners with a network of rape crisis programs

to bring help, hope and healing around issues of sexual violence to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. PCAR:

- Assures that communities have access to quality victim services and prevention education by providing funding, training, materials and assistance to a network of rape crisis centers that serve all of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.
- Provides resources and training on sexual assault-related issues to professionals across the Commonwealth.
- Promotes public policies that provide protections and services to victims of sexual violence, hold offenders accountable, and enhances community safety, and works with media to increase public awareness, access to accurate information and ethical reporting practices.
- Operates the [National Sexual Violence Resource Center \(NSVRC\)](#), which identifies, develops and disseminates resources regarding all aspects of sexual violence prevention and intervention.
- Operates [AEquitas: The Prosecutor's Resource on Violence Against Women](#) to provide expertise and training to prosecutors, law enforcement and criminal justice professionals across the United States and internationally.
- Our programs are funded to provide the following services:

Services to be provided by the local centers may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. the provision of direct services to victims of sexual violence and those collaterally affected by their victimization, with the exception of the offender;
2. crisis and counseling services;
3. medical and legal accompaniment/advocacy;
4. training and technical assistance in the community; and
5. education/awareness and primary prevention activities.

Unmet Needs

PCAR and our network of programs have consistently been good fiscal stewards of funding. However, as the identification of new issues and institutions addresses grows with our knowledge of victimization, the demands on services, education and community awareness are stretched to the limit. We realize that outreach and messaging to different populations must occur in order to achieve our goal to eliminate sexual violence. As I have noted earlier, Senator Toomey has been a champion for victims of trafficking who have a continuum of needs that far exceeds most victims, including housing, addiction, alternatives to incarceration, trauma informed care and accompaniment to medical and legal proceedings. We have always provided services

to men, but appropriate outreach must assure these victims that they will be treated with the dignity and care that they deserve. We have worked extensively with military victims and our CEO, Delilah Rumburg was a civilian co-chair of the Defense Task Force on Sexual Assault in the Military Services. Ms. Rumburg was also on the Task Force on Child Protection in Pennsylvania as well as a member of the White House Advisory Council on Violence Against Women.

Our leader has provided cutting edge knowledge of sexual assault to these issues and has brought to the Commonwealth an urgency to treat this spectrum of victimization to programs in Pennsylvania and across the nation.

Our programs have indicated that funding is needed for the following:

- SANE nurse programming
- Prevention education tailored to reach boys and men
- Collaboration with Multi-disciplinary teams and CAC's
- Victims with disabilities, mental and physical
- Counseling services under PREA
- Cyber crimes
- Prevention education at State Universities
- Storage, analysis and victim notification of rape kits
- Transportation costs in our rural programs
- Hiring and retention of qualified advocates

I am particularly concerned about staffing issues. No one expects to get rich doing this work. However, everyone deserves a living wage and should be compensated for doing work that is traumatizing and seemingly endless. We require 40 hours of training in order to have confidentiality for counseling and accompanying victims. We have had staff that are eligible for public benefits. In urban settings, we have victim advocates routinely stuck in schools all day due to a lock down because of an incidence of violence. This is rewarding work, but not for the faint of heart.

The most frustrating thing for someone who has done policy work is that there is money available for these unmet needs. President Reagan knew what he was doing to dedicate non-taxpayer money to help victims get the services they richly deserve.

Finally, we have learned from providing services to victims that victims' compensation must be allowed to cover HIV medication to prevent disease. This medication is costly and usually not something that victims have the ability to pay for up front. Also, victims are often charged later for ambulance services that they did not call for and imagine the trauma when the bill arrives for that service weeks after the assault. I urge the coverage of these costly but critical services for victims, who through no fault of their own face financial re-traumatization.

We applaud the leadership of our Senator in funding for crime victims and those brave advocates who provide services in our Commonwealth and across the country. I urge Congress to join Senator Toomey in the swift and certain passage of this legislation.