VOICES OF HOPE

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Exhibit No. 3
Date 1-31-05
Bill No. SB 283

January 26, 2005

Dear Senators,

I am writing to express my strong support for passage of bill # SB283.

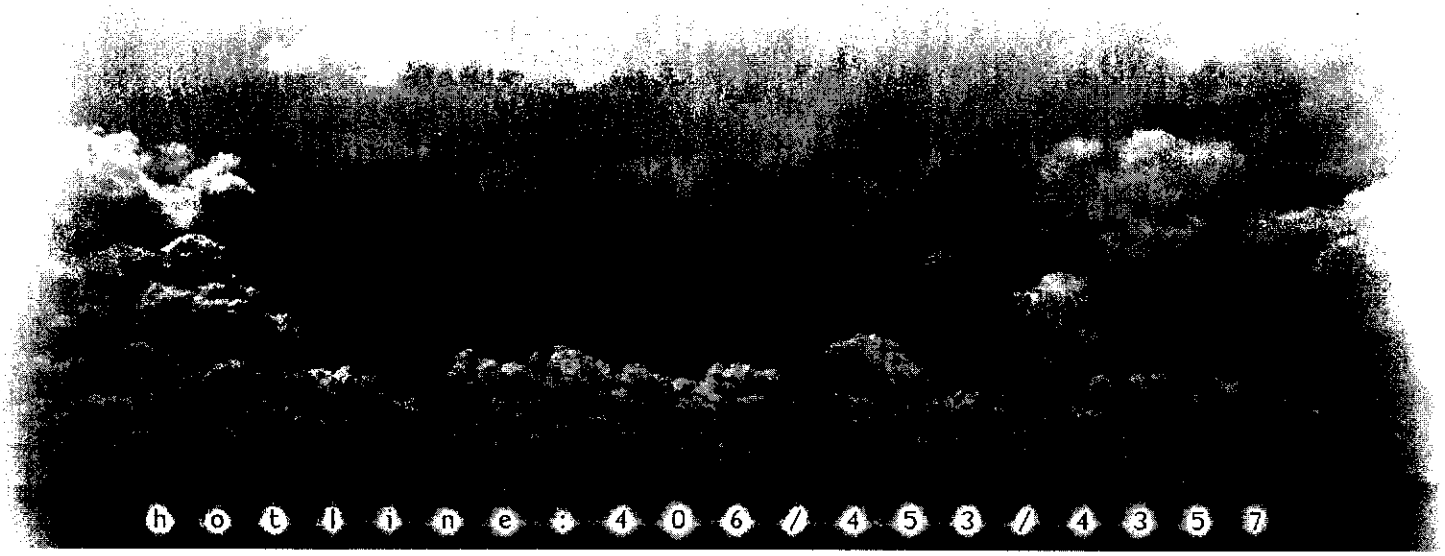
Bill #SB283 would make the act of strangulation during a PFMA a felony, and bring same sex couples under the protections of the PFMA statute. Those added protections would mean that a same sex perpetrator could be charged with PFMA, a victim could receive an order of protection, and advocate privilege would extend to these victims.

My name is Kristy Evans and I am the Executive Director with Voices of Hope-we have been providing crisis services in Great Falls for over thirty years. We see the devastation of partner/family violence on an ongoing basis. We help survivors of violence access community services and work toward healing.

This bill would be a strong step to making all perpetrators of partner/family violence accountable for their actions and allow all survivors to access appropriate services.

Please Support passage of bill #SB283. All of our families deserve to be safe.

Sincerely yours,

Kristy Evans

Kristy Evans