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Email: alyse@alyse4alaska.com
IP Address: 72.42.155.101

Page 1: 2018 Candidate Survey

Q1 What is your name? Which office are you running for and which district do you hope to represent?

Alyse Galvin, U.S. House Alaska At-Large District.

Q2 What is your vision for Alaska when it comes to reducing sexual assault and domestic violence? What steps are you prepared to take to get there?

Violence against women and children should never be a partisan issue. As Congresswoman, my first step will be acknowledging that there is a problem. Alaska has the highest rates of gender-based violence and child sexual abuse in the country and yet our current Representative refuses to address this as a statewide crisis. As a candidate and as a Congresswoman I will discuss Alaska's challenges in terms of domestic violence, and sexual assault openly and honestly.

What got me through growing up in an Alaskan home with domestic violence was a community that lifted me up, I'm running to make sure we have systemic ways to lift up those going through what I did. In Congress I will work to fully reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act, and to fully fund programs and shelters that are not being prioritized by our current Representative.

Q3 Are you familiar with local programs that provide domestic violence and sexual assault services to victims across Alaska? Have you recently visited your local domestic violence/sexual assault shelter or victim services program? What is your plan to support these programs?

I tour the domestic violence/sexual assault shelter and speak with the staff in every community I visit. When I go into villages and towns all over Alaska, going into shelters gives me the best snapshot into how the community is really doing. I've visited Haven House in Homer, Safe in Dillingham, Aware in Juneau, and many more. While each shelter is experiencing different challenges, the message from all of them is the same: Our people are suffering and we are not getting the resources to help them.

We need someone in Congress who is connected to the daily reality of Alaskan's. In Congress I will work closely with with these local programs and bring them to the table. Local organizations have the answers, it is up to leaders to listen and to act accordingly.

Q4 What responsibilities do you believe the Legislature and our elected officials hold in advancing efforts to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault? Would you be willing to maintain or increase the current level of funding for prevention and victims services?

Absolutely I will be increasing the current level of funding for prevention and victim services. I also will vote to fully reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. I am deeply concerned that Alaska Native women are at 10 times greater risk of sexual and domestic violence than non-Native women. In Congress, I will do everything I can to stem this tide so that Alaska Native voices are heard and respected. I will look to ensure that Native community organizations are adequately funded — so that groups like the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center and other Native-operated shelters can continue to support Alaskans.

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA)

Q5 Alaska's 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey reports that 1 in 10 Alaskan students had experienced sexual violence (being forced by anyone to do sexual acts) during the past year. Do you feel that sexual assault, sexual abuse, and dating violence prevention education should take place in our schools and in what way would you suggest enhancing efforts to educate Alaska's youth on these important subjects? Who do you think shares this responsibility?

Our leadership shoulders the burden. We must be working together on solutions to this statewide crisis. Children should be learning about best practices for safe relationships, in age appropriate ways, starting in elementary. The passing of Bree's Law was a perfect example of leaders listening to the needs of our people and then acting. I hope to serve our state by listening to the experts and fighting to get what Alaskans need.
