

February 16, 2021

Re: Support for criminal sexual conduct provisions recommended by the Criminal Sexual Conduct Reform Working Group

Dear Committee Chairs and Members:

I am writing to express the strong support of Global Rights for Women for the Bill reflecting the recommendations of the CSC Working Group.

There is a great need to modify and clarify the criminal sexual conduct provisions of Minnesota law and to create a sexual extortion crime.

Criminal sexual conduct is one of the greatest human rights violations of our time. It persists at an alarming rate in Minnesota and globally. Most criminal law throughout the world remains inadequate to keep victims safe and hold violent offenders accountable.

The CSC Reform Working Group has identified major gaps in our Minnesota law that contribute to the perpetuation of this human right abuse in our State and the ongoing impunity of perpetrators.

The Working Group's recommendations reflect the reality of women's lived experience and addresses those gaps.

Minnesota has long been a leader in innovative, solid legal reforms to address all forms of violence against women. The Working Group's recommendations are consistent with our State's unique and longstanding experience in exactly what works in law and policy to ensure women's right to be free from violence.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter of support.



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