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A Communication From

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Chairman

House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee

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House Passes Lynn Legislation on Sexual Assault

(JUNEAU) – HB 258, a bill sponsored by Representative Bob Lynn (R-Anchorage), makes it an aggravating factor at sentencing for a person convicted of rape or other sexual assault previously diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. The bill passed the House unanimously today.

Representative Lynn said, "This pro-active bill acknowledges the additional pain and suffering caused by rapists and sexual assailants, who expose their victims to the potential delayed death sentence of HIV/AIDS, in addition to the horrific sexual assault. How or why the convicted rapist acquired HIV/AIDS is not the issue. The purpose of the bill is to help make Alaska a safer place to live, work, and play."

HB 258 has earned wide support from the public safety community, as well as groups with the mission of protecting women, men, and children. The bill now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

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