

## **HB2536.Sabrina Sivert.2-8-22.Pro**

### **Sabrina Sivert**

When I came forward about my sexual assault I was 18 years old and still in high school. I was assaulted multiple times by a person of authority, a teacher of mine for 11 months. I thought things would finally stop and I'd be free. That was not the case. When a victim comes forward their world often times comes crashing down with having to give statements, having doctors appointments, people bullying and judging, and in some cases having to go through the legal system for justice which can oftentimes be traumatic.

By passing HB 2536 it will allow victims coming forward to have rights needed to make the process easier and give them a better understanding that there is help out there and that they're not alone. The fear and process a victim goes through can oftentimes be traumatic when sharing their assault. This bill would help protect the victim, help them seek proper medical care, and give them rights needed to move forward after such a traumatic time. This bill would have helped me in making the process easier and helping in protecting me. It would have provided me with an advocate that was on my team and would have helped in giving me a safe place to go when I was doubted or felt alone. This bill will help give survivors proper rights in order to move forward after a tragic time. Thank you so much for your time today.