# digital @dvocacy toolkit

for too long, survivors of sexual assault have been denied access to justice.

with your help, New Jersey's outdated civil statute of limitations for sexual assault ends now.

#### JOIN THE FIGHT!

#### 1. Find your legislator.

Go to www.njleg.state.nj.us and click on "Find your legislator." Select your town or municipality from the list. Click on your corresponding district number (not "Legislators for District #" - choose the hyperlinked "District #" before the list of towns / municipalities in each district). Choose one of your legislators. Then click the "Contact Your Legislator(s)" next to "Electronic Mail." Check <u>ALL</u> of the representatives for your district.

#### 2. Send an email!

In the "Subject" drop-down field, choose, "CRIME VICTIMS." Fill out your name / address. In the 'Affiliation' section, include, "The New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault" for the **Group**, and "Ally" in the **Relationship** field.

#### 3. Show your support!

Express your support by explaining the key elements of the bill and how it will help survivors of sexual violence in N.J. (See below for tips to get started!)

#### 3. Send a Tweet!

Finished your email? Send a Tweet to your elected representatives, letting them know you care about this issue. See p. 3 for sample Tweets and p. 4 - 6 for Twitter handles!

#### 5. Let us know how it went!

There is only so much that can be done in Trenton. We want to know how our grassroots efforts are doing. Share your feedback with NJCASA at info@njcasa.org.

#### Here's what you can say when you email!

Hi! My name is [ NAME ] and I am a constituent of yours. I'm emailing regarding S477 / A3648 and how it will help survivors of sexual violence in New Jersey. Our state's measly two-year civil statute of limitations for sexual assault does not best serve survivors. [ MAKE IT YOUR OWN! Pick one of the points on the next page and use it here. ] I'd appreciate your attention and dedication to ensuring we address this egregious gap in policy, by urging that this bill be added to committee agendas before the end of this year. Thank you!"



### **your messages** remind New Jersey lawmakers that survivors and those who care for them are listening, watching, and expecting them to act.

#### here's more information you can share in your emails!



"Although New Jersey has no statute of limitations for survivors of sexual assault who want to pursue the criminal justice system, we have a limited two-year statute for pursuing cases in civil court. Compare that to the six year limit on pursuing civil litigation for trespassing, which seems like a huge injustice giving the severity of the crime."

"A study using data from a sexual assault hotline found that adult survivors of child sexual abuse were, on average, *52 years old* when they called in - and male survivors tended to be older than female survivors."

"Victims of sexual violence *choose different ways to pursue justice* and we should follow their lead. For some that means the criminal justice system, for others it means reporting within the system that harmed them (a school, workplace, etc.), and for many, that means accessing the civil justice system. Too many survivors have the clock run out on their opportunity to pursue civil action before they even know it's an option. Senate Bill S447 / Assembly Bill A3648 will allow more survivors to pursue justice in a way that feels right for them."

"THIS is the time for trauma-informed policy reform! The legislature has taken critical steps to reforming an unfair system from expanding access to protective orders to increasing training for law enforcement officers and increasing oversight and prevention of sexual violence in our schools. Civil statute reform is the next logical, common-sense step to best serve the 1.8M survivors of sexual violence living in N.J."

"Recent national and state-specific allegations of sexual assault make it clear that these problems are systemic and that we have inadequate responses for survivors seeking justice. These reforms are necessary to promote equality and access to justice for survivors."

### @ your reps!

using social media both connects with your elected representatives AND shows your friends + followers that you care about this issue! get started with the tweets below!



NJ survivors of sexual assault are subjected to a 2-year civil statute of limitations... victims of trespassing get SIX?! Something doesn't add up. @[HANDLE], we need #SOLreform now!

Tweet



In N.J., we have NO criminal statute of limitations for sexual assault (yay!) but an INSUFFICIENT two-year civil statute (boo). That's not enough time for survivors of traumatic sexual assault. @HANDLE, don't let the clock run out on survivors. #SOLreform

**Tweet** 



Survivors of sexual assault in New Jersey are being DENIED access to justice. N.J.'s two-year civil statute of limitations doesn't take into account the effects of sexual assault. @HANDLE, act NOW to help victims! #SOLreform

Tweet



N.J.'s 1.8M survivors deserve expanded pathways to justice & perpetrators of sexual assault should be held accountable! @[HANDLE], pass S477/A368 to expand NJ's insufficient 2-year civil statute of limitations.

Tweet

## find your representatives

#### **DISTRICT 1**

Senator: Sen. Jeff Van Drew | @VanDrewTeam Assembly: Asm. R. Bruce Land | @AsmBruceLand Assembly: Asm. Bob Andrzejczak | @VanDrewTeam

#### **DISTRICT 2**

Senator: Sen. Chris A. Brown | @ChrisBrownNJ Assembly: Asm. John Armato | @AsmJohnArmato Assembly: Asm. Vince Mazzeo | @VinceMazzeo

#### **DISTRICT 3**

Senator: Sen. Stephen M. Sweeney | @NJSenatePres

Assembly: Asm. John J. Burzichelli

Assembly: Asm. Adam J. Taliaferro | @Tali43

#### **DISTRICT 4**

Senator: Sen. Fred H. Madden, Jr. | @ServingSJ Assembly: Asm. Paul D. Moriarty | @ServingSJ

Assembly: Asw. Gabriela M. Mosquera | @Gabby\_Mosquera

#### **DISTRICT 5**

Senator: Sen. Nilsa Cruz-Perez | @NJ5thLeg Assembly: Asw. Patricia Egan Jones | @AswJones

Assembly: Asm. William W. Spearman | @AsmBillSpearman

#### **DISTRICT 6**

Senator: Sen. James Beach

Assembly: Asm. Louis Greenwald | @LouGreenwald Assembly: Asw. Pamela R. Lampitt | @pamlampitt1

#### **DISTRICT 7**

Senator: Sen. Troy Singleton | @LD7Singleton Assembly: Asm. Herb Conaway | @herbconaway Assembly: Asw. Carol A. Murphy | @carolmurphyNJ

#### **DISTRICT 8**

Senator: Sen. Dawn Marie Addiego | @8thdistrictleg Assembly: Asm. Joe Howarth | @8thdistrictleg Assembly: Asm. Bob Andrzejczak | @8thdistrictleg

#### **DISTRICT 9**

Senator: Sen. Christopher J. Connors | @9thDistrictNJ Assembly: Asw. DiAnne C. Gove | @9thDistrictNJ Assembly: Asm. Bob Andrzejczak | @9thDistrictNJ

#### **DISTRICT 10**

Senator: Sen. James W. Holzapfel | @jimholzapfel

Assembly: Asm. Gregory P. McGuckin Assembly: Asm. David W. Wolfe

#### **DISTRICT 11**

Senator: Sen. Vin Gopal | @vingopal Assembly: Asw. Joann Downey | @NJLD11 Assembly: Asm. Eric Houghtaling | @NJLD11

#### **DISTRICT 12**

Senator: Sen. Samuel D. Thompson | @SamThompsonNJ

Assembly: Asm. Robert D. Clifton Assembly: Asm. Ronald S. Dancer

#### DISTRICT 13

Senator: Sen. Declan J. O'Scanlon Jr. | @declanoscanlon

Assembly: Asw. Serena DiMaso | @Sdimaso

Assembly: Asw. Amy H. Handlin

#### **DISTRICT 14**

Senator: Sen. Linda Greenstein | @SenGreenstein Assembly: Asm. Daniel R. Benson | @DanielRBenson Assembly: Asm. Wayne P. DeAngelo | @WayneDeAngelo

#### **DISTRICT 15**

Senator: Sen. Shirley K. Turner | @NJSenTurner Assembly: Asw. Verlina Reynolds-Jackson | @ASWReyJackson Assembly: Asm. Anthony S. Verrelli | @VerrelliForLD15

#### **DISTRICT 16**

Senator: Sen. Christopher Bateman | @KipBateman Assembly: Asm. Roy Freiman | @AsmRoyFreiman Assembly: Asm. Andrew Zwicker | @AndrewZwicker

## find your representatives

#### **DISTRICT 17**

Senator: Sen. Bob Smith

Assembly: Asm. Joe Danielsen | @JoeDanielsen17

Assembly: Asm. Joseph V. Egan

#### **DISTRICT 18**

Senator: Sen. Patrick J. Diegnan Jr. | @PatrickDiegnan

Assembly: Asm. Robert J. Karabinchak

Assembly: Asw. Nancy J. Pinkin | @nancypinkin

#### **DISTRICT 19**

Senator: Sen. Joseph F. Vitale | @SenJoeVitale

Assembly: Asm. Craig J. Coughlin | @SpeakerCoughlin

Assembly: Asw. Yvonne Lopez | @AswLopez

#### **DISTRICT 20**

Senator: Sen. Joseph P. Cryan | @SenatorJoeCryan Assembly: Asm. Jamel C. Holley | @jamelholley Assembly: Asw. Annette Quijano | @AnnetteQuijano

#### **DISTRICT 21**

Senator: Sen. Thomas H. Kean Jr. | @tomkean Assembly: Asm. Jon M. Bramnick | @JonBramnick Assembly: Asw. Nancy F. Muñoz | @NancyFMunoz

#### **DISTRICT 22**

Senator: Sen. Nicholas P. Scutari | @SenatorScutari

Assembly: Asw. Linda S. Carter

Assembly: Asm. James J. Kennedy | @asmjimkennedy

#### **DISTRICT 23**

Senator: Sen. Michael J. Doherty | @mikedohertynj

Assembly: Asm. John DiMaio

Assembly: Asm. Erik Peterson | @NJAsmPeterson

#### **DISTRICT 24**

Senator: Sen. Steven V. Oroho | @stevenoroho

Assembly: Asm. Parker Space Assembly: Asm. Harold J. Wirths

#### **DISTRICT 25**

Senator: Sen. Anthony R. Bucco | @tonybucco

Assembly: Asm. Anthony M. Bucco | @AnthonyMBucco

Assembly: Asm. Michael Patrick Carroll

#### **DISTRICT 26**

Senator: Sen. Joseph Pennacchio | @joepennacchio Assembly: Asw. BettyLou DeCroce | @BLDeCroce4NJ

Assembly: Asm. Jay Webber | @JayWebberNJ

#### **DISTRICT 27**

Senator: Sen. Richard J. Codey | @RichardCodey Assembly: Asw. Mila M. Jasey | @MilaJasey Assembly: Asm. John F. McKeon | @JohnFMcKeon

#### **DISTRICT 28**

Senator: Sen. Ronald L. Rice Assembly: Asm. Ralph R. Caputo Assembly: Asw. Cleopatra G. Tucker

#### **DISTRICT 29**

Senator: Sen. M. Teresa Ruiz | @SenMTeresaRuiz

Assembly: Asw. Eliana Pintor Marin

Assembly: Asw. Shanique Speight | @Speight4NJ

#### **DISTRICT 30**

Senator: Sen. Robert W. Singer | @bobsingernj Assembly: Asm. Sean T. Kean | @seantkean

Assembly: Asm. Edward H. Thomson

#### **DISTRICT 31**

Senator: Sen. Sandra B. Cunningham | @SandraBCunningh Assembly: Asm. Nicholas Chiaravalloti | @NicholasNJ31 Assembly: Asw. Angela V. McKnight | @AswMcKnight

#### **DISTRICT 32**

Senator: Sen. Nicholas J. Sacco | @NicholasJSacco Assembly: Asw. Angelica M. Jimenez | @angiemj319

Assembly: Asm. Pedro Mejia

### find your representatives

#### **DISTRICT 33**

Senator: Sen. Brian P. Stack | @mayorstack Assembly: Asw. Annette Chaparro | @AChaparro33 Assembly: Asm. Raj Mukherji | @RajMukherji

#### **DISTRICT 34**

Senator: Sen. Nia H. Gill | @SenatorGill Assembly: Asm. Thomas P. Giblin

Assembly: Asw. Britnee N. Timberlake | @AswTimberlake

#### **DISTRICT 35**

Senator: Sen. Nellie Pou | @NelliePou

Assembly: Asw. Shavonda E. Sumter | @shavondasumter Assembly: Asm. Benjie E. Wimberly | @BenjieWimberly

#### **DISTRICT 36**

Senator: Sen. Paul A. Sarlo | @PaulASarlo

Assembly: Asm. Clinton Calabrese | @ClintonCalabre1

Assembly: Asm. Gary S. Schaer | @GarySchaerNJ

#### **DISTRICT 37**

Senator: Sen. Loretta Weinberg | @SenatorLorettaW Assembly: Asm. Gordon M. Johnson | @GMJohnsonNJ Assembly: Asw. Valerie Vainieri Huttle | @valerie huttle

#### **DISTRICT 38**

Senator: Sen. Joseph A. Lagana | @JoeLaganaNJ

Assembly: Asw. Lisa Swain

Assembly: Asm. P. Christopher Tully

#### **DISTRICT 39**

Senator: Sen. Gerald Cardinale | @gerrycardinale

Assembly: Asm. Robert Auth

Assembly: Asw. Holly T. Schepisi | @HollySchepisi

#### **DISTRICT 40**

Senator: Sen. Kristin M. Corrado | @sencorrado

Assembly: Asm. Christopher P. DePhillips

Assembly: Asm. Kevin J. Rooney | @KevinJRooney