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Statement of Attorney Gloria Allred Urging New York State Assembly Speaker to

Allow a Floor Vote on the Adult Survivors Act

New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie has nine session days left to

stop standing in the way of justice.

The N.Y.S. Senate has already passed the Adult Survivors Act (A.S.A.) twice,

two years in a row, by a unanimous vote.

We know we have the votes in the New York Assembly Judiciary Committee

to send the Adult Survivors Act to the floor, and there are 70 co-sponsors of the

bill including Republicans.

This is a bi-partisan bill with massive support.

The only man in the way appears to be the Assembly Speaker. Speaker

Heastie, why will you not allow legislators in the Assembly to vote for the A.S.A.

on the floor of the Assembly? Why does the A.S.A. remain bottled up in the

Assembly Judiciary Committee? You have the power to release it for a vote on

the Assembly floor. Why would you not allow this vote? Why are you denying

access to justice for victims of sexual abuse?

How many times do survivors have to relive their trauma at a press

conference or in front of legislators before you take action?

The A.S.A. is the same as the Child Victims Act which the Assembly passed nearly 3 years ago with near unanimous support, except that the A.S.A. would allow a one-year window for Adult Survivors of Adult Sexual Abuse to sue those whom the survivors allege have sexually victimized them.

The New York State Assembly has an unfortunate and appalling history of standing in the way of survivors.

I wonder if there are some legislators in the Assembly who are concerned that if the A.S.A. becomes law that victims whom they have sexually harassed or sexually assaulted may be able to sue them and have their day in court?

Given the appalling history of the Assembly on supporting survivors, I urge you, Speaker Heastie, to reveal the names of all of those working behind the scenes and in the shadows to prevent the A.S.A. from moving forward. I am especially interested in the names of those individuals who have sexually harassed or sexually assaulted women, and who have a stake in stopping the A.S.A. from becoming law, because these wrongdoers do not want to take the risk of being held accountable.

Surely survivors should have the right simply to file their cases and have the opportunity to be heard by a judge and a jury in the civil justice system.

We urge Speaker Heastie to allow a floor vote on the A.S.A. immediately, and we urge all legislators to pass the Adult Survivors Act now!

ATTORNEY GLORIA ALLRED MAY 12, 2022