Dear Senator/Representative [select one] [senator/representative’s last name],

In the US, one in six women will experience a rape crime in her lifetime. Sexual violence has become a public health crisis, as perpetrators are not being held accountable.

Sexual assault victims who undergo a forensic exam after an attack go through a difficult process that takes up to six hours to complete. The evidence collected is known as a rape kit. This evidence can identify an unknown assailant, link crimes together, and identify serial offenders.

Over thirty states have passed legislation requiring police departments to submit every rape kit for DNA testing. This has resulted in the indictments and convictions of thousands of rapists.

However, despite efforts to test every new rape kit, well over 100,000 evidentiary rape kits have been left untested in law enforcement and crime lab storage facilities across the United States.

The backlog of untested kits has allowed perpetrators to reoffend and has robbed victims of the opportunity for justice.

I urge you to introduce legislation to clear the backlogged rape kits in our state. This investment would save lives, prevent suffering, and make our state a safer place for everyone.

Sincerely,
[Your name]