



## The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

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May 16, 2023

Ms. Melissa Sweet  
Committee Clerk  
msweet@house.mi.gov

*Re: Support for Re-introduction of HB 4516*

Dear Ms. Sweet:

Please accept this correspondence as a card in support of HB 4516. We ask that our comments be on the record with the committee so that it is known, without reservation, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians supports HB 4516.

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians remain dedicated to preventing, addressing, and ending domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. Perhaps most importantly, we remain vigilant in our support to survivors and their families ensuring safety and wellbeing during their time of crises.

The amendments created by this Bill will secure financial support that will allow us to continue assisting survivors with counseling, shelters, and service providers. It is acknowledged that domestic violence impacts Native American and Alaskan Native families disproportionately higher than others. However, we also know this violence knows no reservation, state, or county boundaries, spanning all races, ages, sexes regardless of education and socioeconomic background. The critical services that HB 4516 funds will benefit not only the Grand Traverse Band Tribe, but all people of Northern Michigan.

Thank you for your consideration and we urge you to support this important Bill.

Sincerely,

David M. Arroyo  
GTB Tribal Chairman  
On Behalf of the GTB Council

CC: Tribal Council