

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 30, 2023

The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Commerce,  
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies  
H-310  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Matt Cartwright  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Commerce,  
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Cartwright:

As the Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee considers their FY24 priorities, we want to thank you for your leadership in funding programs in the last fiscal year that serve victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. We respectfully urge you to maintain and increase support for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), more than 12 million people experience domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking each year. Nearly every day in the U.S. an average of three women are killed by a current or former intimate partner, an average of one in five women have been raped in their lifetime, and one in two women have experienced some form of sexual violence.

That is why our nation relies on the critical programs administered by VAWA. With the passage of VAWA in 1994, the infusion of federal funds fostered unprecedented coordination between advocates and authorities responding to domestic violence and sexual assault crises – first responders, victim service providers, prosecutors, judges, and the criminal and civil justice systems. VAWA is a cornerstone of our nation's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Its effective coordinated community response model helps victims find safety and receive services while holding thousands of perpetrators accountable for their actions. VAWA programs support advocacy and accompaniment through medical and legal systems, hotlines, crisis intervention, and prevention.

We urge the Subcommittees to commit adequate resources toward these effective, life-saving programs and **provide full funding of \$1.14 billion for VAWA programs** administered by the Office on Violence Against Women/Department of Justice.

We ask for the following funds:

- **STOP Formula Grant Program (\$326 million)**, one of the most far-reaching VAWA programs, is at the core of effective coordinated community responses to domestic violence and sexual assault which helps hundreds of thousands of victims find safety and receive services every year while holding thousands of perpetrators accountable for their actions.
- **Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) (\$100 million)** is the only federal funding source exclusively funding direct services for survivors of sexual assault
- **Support Funding for Culturally Specific Organizations** to provide funding to culturally specific organizations to reach survivors in communities of color who face barriers in accessing services.

- **Rural Grant (\$100 million)** is a comprehensive grant program that provides support services for victims of domestic and sexual violence living in rural and isolated areas.
- **VAWA Consolidated Youth and Prevention Programs (\$60 million) including the Violence on College Campuses Grants (\$40 million), and the SMART and CHOOSE Youth (\$20 million) programs.**
- **Legal Assistance to Victims (\$100 million)** program provides lifesaving legal service for victims of domestic and sexual violence.
- **Other VAWA Programs (\$410.5 million)** All VAWA programs work together to ensure that the systemic responses to domestic violence and sexual assault are improved and that victims can receive lifesaving services. Request that the remaining VAWA programs, including the Transitional Housing program (\$100 million), Improving Criminal Justice Responses (\$80 million), Elder Abuse Grant program (\$10 million), Protections and Services for Disabled Victims (\$17.5 million), Outreach to Underserved Victims (\$10 million), Grants to Support Families in the Justice System (\$28 million), Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention (\$10 million), National Deaf Services (\$4 million), Restorative Practices (\$25 million), Supporting Transgender Victims (\$7 million), LGBTQ Specific Services Program (\$5 million), Direct Cash Assistance (\$8 million), Community-Based Organizational Capacity Building (\$10 million), Emerging Issues (\$5 million), Rape Survivor Child Custody Act (\$5 million), Closing the Consent Loophole (\$5 million), Improving Conditions for Women in Federal Custody (\$8 million), Grants to Combat Violence Against Women in Public and Assisted Housing (\$8 million), Abby Honold Act (\$5 million). Programs that address the needs of Native American victims include Research on Violence Against Indian Women (\$2 million), the VAWA Tribal Jurisdiction (\$25 million), National Tribal Sex Offender Registry (\$1 million), the National Clearinghouse on Sexual Assault of American Indian and Alaska Native Women (\$2 million), Tribal Special Assistance US Attorneys (\$4 million), Tribal Order of Protection (\$10 million), and the Tribal Access program (\$6 million). Finally, the Resource Center on Workplace Response (\$2 million) helps companies address domestic violence and sexual assault in the workplace.

Despite the critical need for services, training, and the proven effectiveness of VAWA's programs, funding has remained relatively level. Programs are struggling to meet the increasing demand for services without additional resources. Therefore, we strongly urge you to fund each VAWA program at least at its authorized level for FY24.

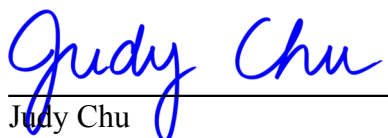
Sincerely,



Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress

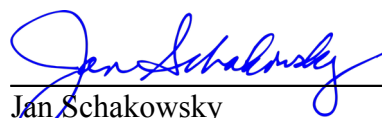


Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



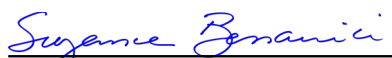
---

Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



---

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



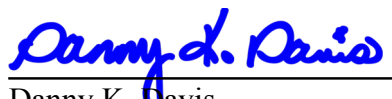
---

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



---

Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



---

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



---

Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



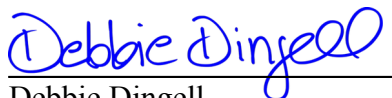
---

Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress




---

Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



---

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



---

Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



---

Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



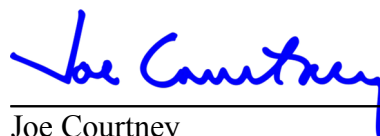
---

Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



---

Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



---

Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



---

Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



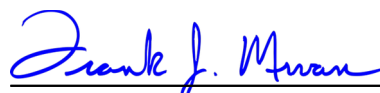
---

Cori Bush  
Member of Congress



---

Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



---

Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



---

Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



---

Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



---

Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



---

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



---

Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



---

Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



---

Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress



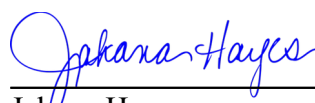
---

Mary Sattler Peltola  
Member of Congress



---

Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



---

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



---

Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



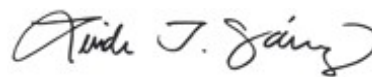
---

Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



---

Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress



---

Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



---

Jenniffer González-Colón  
Member of Congress



---

Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



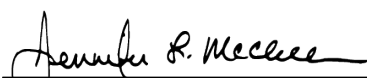
---

Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



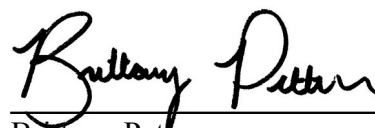
---

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



---

Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



---

Brittany Petersen  
Member of Congress



---

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



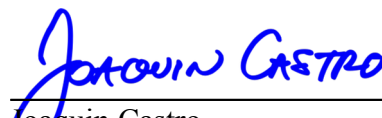
---

Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



---

Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



---

Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



---

Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress  
, Committee on Ways and  
Means




---

Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



---

Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



---

Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress



---

John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



---

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress




---

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



---

Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



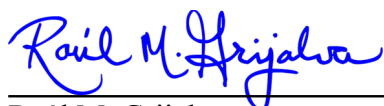
---

Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress



---

Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress



---

Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



---

Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



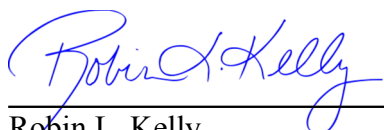
---

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



---

Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



---

Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



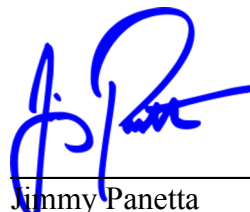
---

Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



---

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



---

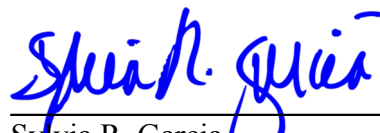
Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress





---

Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



---

Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



---

Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



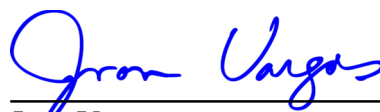
---

Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



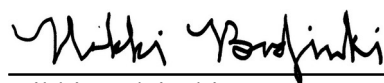
---

Gregorio Kilili Camacho  
Sablan  
Member of Congress



---

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



---

Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



---

Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



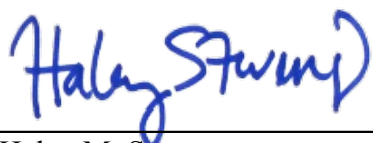
---

David Scott  
Member of Congress



---

Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



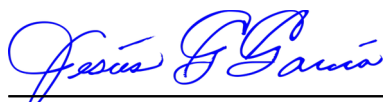
---

Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



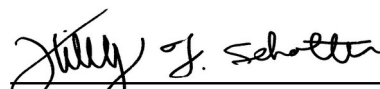
---

Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress



---

Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



---

Hillary J. Scholten  
Member of Congress



---

Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



---

Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



---

David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



---

Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



---

Emilia Strong Sykes  
Member of Congress



---

Yadira Caraveo, M.D.  
Member of Congress



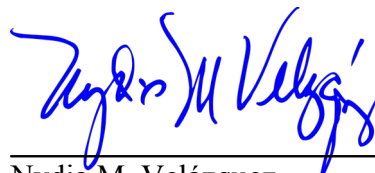
Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Marie Gluesenkamp Perez  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



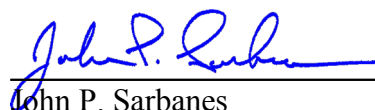
Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



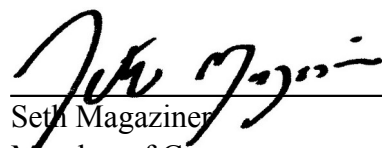
Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



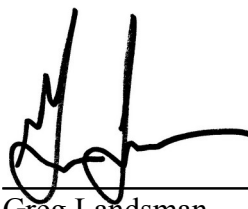
Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



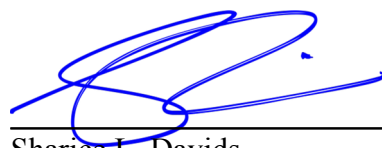
Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



Katie Porter  
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

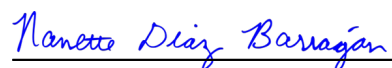


Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



---

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



---

Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



---

Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



---

Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



---

Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



---

Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



---

Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



---

André Carson  
Member of Congress



---

Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



---

Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



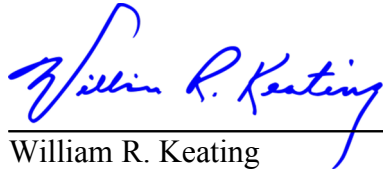
---

Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



---

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



---

William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



---

Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



---

Garret Graves  
Member of Congress



---

Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



---

Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



---

Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



---

Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



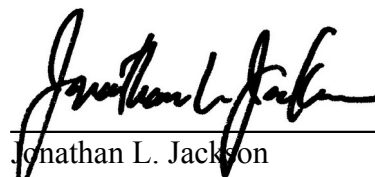
---

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



---

Andy Kim  
Member of Congress



---

Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



---

Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress