

September 15, 2011

Contact Your Senators and Representatives to Tell Them about VAWA, FVPSA and VOCA and the Crucial Services They Support, September 26-30

Yesterday afternoon the Senate Appropriations CJS Subcommittee marked up its FY 2012 appropriations bill and included \$418 million for domestic violence and sexual assault programs. This number is roughly in line with the House bill. The detailed breakdown for specific VAWA programs is not available yet, but we will send that information along as soon as possible. The full Senate Appropriations Committee is scheduled to vote on this bill today, so there is a possibility for some changes if amendments are offered. We will be watching the amendment process closely and will let you know if anything changes.

Next Steps

The Senate L-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee is expected to mark up their bill next Tuesday. The House has not yet scheduled its mark up for their version of this bill. Both the CJS and L-HHS bills will need to be voted on by the full House and Senate and then conferenced together before being finalized. Despite the current activity, the House and Senate are not expected to finish all of their funding bills before the end of the fiscal year on September 30th. The House Appropriations Committee introduced a Continuing Resolution yesterday that would continue funding federal programs through November 18th while both chambers continue work on their funding bills. The proposed Continuing Resolution would fund programs at 1.4% below FY '11 levels to bring spending in line with the total amount agreed to in the recent debt ceiling legislation.

Take Action: In-District Meetings September 26-30

Members of Congress will be back in the district again September 26-30. This is a critical time for you to contact your Senators and Representatives to tell them about VAWA, FVPSA and VOCA and the crucial services they support. Your Members of Congress need to hear about the essential role that these programs play in your communities, the lives that these programs save, and the jobs that these programs provide, to ensure that DV and SA programs are successfully funded in FY 2012. We encourage you to set up meetings with your Members of Congress and call or send letters to your Members of Congress in support of continued funding for DV and SA programs in FY 2012. These meetings are also an important time to discuss VAWA's reauthorization. We recommend prioritizing meetings with Members of Congress who serve on the Appropriations or Judiciary Committee.

Use the following linked tools to plan your outreach and execute your events/meetings:

- [2011 In-District Dates](#)
- [In-District Lobbying Guide](#)
- [Sample Scheduling Letter](#)
- [Talking Points](#)
- [Key Members of Congress](#)
- [New Members of Congress](#)
- [Key Requests Document](#)
- [VAWA Reauthorization Fact Sheet](#)
- [Appropriations Fact Sheet](#)
- [2010 DV Counts Census](#)



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