Please forward widely!

July 18, 2012

Congress has 15 more days to finish VAWA. We need to tell our legislators to do their job. We need you to act in these last few days.

For nearly two months, since the passage of a Senate version of VAWA and a House version of VAWA, Congress has done NOTHING to finish the job and get VAWA to the President to be signed. NOTHING.

We need you to do just two things in the following weeks: call your legislators and write letters to the editor, especially if you are in California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, New Hampshire, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, or Wisconsin. We know we’ve asked you before, and we know you’re tired – but we have precious few legislative days left.

We need to let Congress know that everyone loses if VAWA isn’t finished—that all victims need the many improvements in this version of VAWA.

ACTION: CALL YOUR LEGISLATORS AND TELL THEM:

“We need you to do your job and pass VAWA. If you don’t, ALL victims of violence will lose critical protections, including:

- protections for victims of dating and sexual violence at colleges and universities, who often lack access to the justice system simply because these crimes occur on campus.
• housing protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

• helpful expansions from both the Senate and the House bills that would provide crucial new protections for victims of sexual violence.

• valuable new prevention programs that can reduce the likelihood of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking from occurring in the future.

• Many victims, including Native women, immigrants, LGBT people and communities of color, would go without life-saving protection from violence.

This is unacceptable. You must pass VAWA before the recess.”

Your member of Congress, 202-224-3121 or at their direct numbers below:

CA  Miller, Gary G. 202 225-3201
CA  Lungren, Daniel E. 202 225-5716
CA  Denham, Jeff 202 225-4540
CA  Bilbray, Brian P. 202 225-0508
CA  Bono Mack, Mary 202 225-5330
CO  Coffman, Mike 202 225-7882
CO  Tipton, Scott R. 202 225-4761
FL  West, Allen B. 202 225-3026
IL  Walsh, Joe 202 225-3711
IL  Johnson, Timothy V. 202 225-2371
MI  Benishek, Dan 202 225-4735
NH  Guinta, Frank C. 202 225-5456
NV  Heck, Joseph J. 202 225-3252
NY  Buerkle, Ann Marie  202 225-3701
NY  Grimm, Michael G.  202 225-3371
NY  Hayworth, Nan A. S.  202 225-5441
OH  Gibbs, Bob  202 225-6265
OH  Johnson, Bill  202 225-5705
OH  Renacci, James B.  202 225-3876
PA  Barletta, Lou  202 225-6511
TX  Canseco, Francisco "Quico"  202 225-4511
VA  Rigell, E. Scott  202 225-4215
WA  Reichert, David G.  202 225-7761
WI  Ribble, Reid J.  202 225-5665
WI  Duffy, Sean P.  202 225-3365

Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), (202) 225-0600

Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-VA), (202) 225-4000

Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), (202) 225-0100

Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), (202) 224-3542

Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), (202) 224-2541

Chair of the Democratic Conference Senator Chuck Schumer, (202) 224-6542
ACTION: WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR – OR GET YOUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT, COMMUNITY LEADERS AND SURVIVORS IN YOUR COMMUNITIES TO DO SO

Sample letter to the editor:

To the Editor:

Congress is failing victims of violence. They have done nothing to pass the Violence Against Women Act in the past two months. Without this critical law, victims of violence will lose life-saving protections, including services for dating and sexual violence victims on college campuses, housing protections, protections for victims of sexual violence and prevention programs. We cannot stand for a Congress that refuses to protect victims of violence. It’s simply unacceptable. Congress must act now and pass a law that protects all victims of violence.

We all know that passing a VAWA that includes ALL victims is the right thing to do – spend these last few days telling your Congress Member to get VAWA done before they go on vacation.

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Check our website for fact sheets, press coverage, support letters and updates: [www.4vawa.org](http://www.4vawa.org).

Follow us on Twitter at [@NTFVAWA](https://twitter.com/NTFVAWA) and "like" our Facebook page where you can find a toolkit and other action and information items: [http://on.fb.me/NTF_Facebook_page](http://on.fb.me/NTF_Facebook_page).

Don’t forget to tweet about VAWA using the hashtags #ReauthorizeVAWA, #RealVAWA

and #VAWA.

If you aren’t on one of the VAWA email lists or want to add members of your staff or state/community leaders to our grassroots alerts e-mailing list, send names and contact information including email to [ntfawaalerts@icasa.org](mailto:ntfawaalerts@icasa.org).