

Violence Against Women Act Event

Monday, June 12, 2000
12:30 pm – 1:30pm
President's Hall - Room 450, EEOB

AGENDA

Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady

Kathy Witt
Sheriff of Fayette County, Kentucky

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United States Senate

J. Joseph Curran, Jr.
Attorney General for the State of Maryland

The Honorable Constance Morella
United States House of Representatives

Rose Pulliam
Associate Director, Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence

CLOSING

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CLOSING

To: Neta

From: Eric & Heather

Re: VAWA Press paper
& supporting organizations

The White House
Office of the First Lady

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 12, 2000

CONTACT: LISSA MUSCATINE
ERIKA BATCHELLER
JENNIFER SMITH
202/456-2960

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON JOINS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT
TO CALL FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT**

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton today will join members of the law enforcement community and a bipartisan group of lawmakers to urge Congress to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). She will announce key law enforcement support for reauthorization and will highlight the progress of VAWA, releasing reports from the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services documenting the success of the law. In addition, she will announce that the National Domestic Violence Hotline, established under VAWA, received nearly 500,000 calls from February 1996 to May 31, 2000. Finally, the First Lady will announce that Attorney General Janet Reno and Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala will call on their Cabinet colleagues to use their agency resources to address the problem of domestic violence. The Vice President also is joining the call for reauthorization, sending a letter to every Member of Congress asking them to make reauthorization a priority.

The First Lady will be joined by Attorney General Joseph Curran, Jr. of Maryland; Sheriff Kathy Witt of Fayette County, Kentucky; Rose Pulliam, associate director of the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Senator Barbara Boxer, and Rep. Constance Morella.

VAWA'S SUCCESS IN COMBATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Over the last seven years, the Clinton Administration has led an historic effort to reduce crime in our nation's communities and, in particular, to recognize and respond to the problem of violence against women. In 1994, with the First Lady's strong support, Congress passed the landmark Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) as part of the Administration's crime bill. The Act established new Federal criminal provisions and key grant programs to improve the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, and to direct critical services to victims. Reports released today by DOJ and HHS show that these programs have awarded \$1.5 billion dollars in Federal grants to states to help law enforcement agencies and communities across the nation promote the safety of women and hold offenders accountable. These grants have supported the work of prosecutors, law enforcement officials, the courts, victim advocates, health care and social service professionals, and intervention and prevention programs.

A recent report by the Bureau of Justice Statistics shows that domestic violence has declined since 1993 and that VAWA programs are working. For example, the number of women

experiencing violence at the hands of an intimate partner declined 21 percent from 1993 to 1998. In addition, in 1996, 1997, and 1998, intimate partners committed fewer murders than in any year since 1976.

VAWA MUST BE REAUTHORIZED

Although tremendous strides have been made, domestic violence still devastates the lives of many women and children. Nearly one-third of women murdered each year are killed by their intimate partners, violence by intimates accounts for over 20 percent of all violent crimes against women, and women were raped and sexually assaulted 307,000 times in 1998 alone. If Congress fails to reauthorize VAWA, many critical programs may lose their funding. Reauthorization will help ensure that we maintain support of existing programs, expand the investigation and prosecution of crimes, provide greater numbers of victims with assistance, maintain and expand the domestic violence hotline, shelter, and rape prevention and education programs, and support creative partnerships between law enforcement, victim advocates and communities that have proven so effective. In addition, reauthorization will:

- Strengthen the VAWA criminal provisions;
- Expand protections of federal criminal laws and grant programs to women in dating relationships;
- Protect immigrant women and children from domestic violence;
- Enhance the full faith and credit provisions;
- Facilitate filing and service of protection orders; and
- Ensure that children remain in the custody of non-abusive parents.

LAW ENFORCEMENT RALLIES BEHIND REAUTHORIZATION

VAWA programs have provided tremendous support to law enforcement in their efforts to combat violence against women. DOJ has awarded more than \$800 million dollars in VAWA grants to law enforcement officials, prosecutors, victim advocates, and courts to address the problem of violence against women at the state, local, and tribal levels. These grants have enabled states to train personnel in handling cases of violence against women, increase prosecutions, assist victims, and build innovative partnerships between law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim services providers.

The First Lady today will stand with law enforcement to recognize the importance of VAWA to the law enforcement community. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG), the National Sheriffs Association, and the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) all support reauthorization. The First Lady also will release a resolution from NAAG in support of reauthorization, and a letter from IACP to President Clinton supporting reauthorization.

Sheriffs
PERF



FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

www.fleoa.org

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June 15, 2000

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

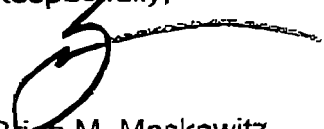
Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the more than 18,000 members of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), I am writing to express our organization's strong support for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

In the six years since its inception, VAWA has helped this country's law enforcement and social agencies address the issues and challenges faced in safeguarding women and children against domestic violence. Law enforcement has made inroads in this fight but the work is far from complete and many citizens still are in jeopardy. FLEOA believes that continued VAWA funding is necessary to continue this progress and to expand and improve law enforcement services to those who need it most.

FLEOA, the primary voice of America's federal criminal investigators and officers, stands ready to work with you and members of Congress in support of this important piece of legislation.

Respectfully,


Brian M. Moskowitz
National Legislative Director
Executive Board Member

P.O. Box 740, Washington DC 20044

Administrative Services (717) 938-2300 • 1811 Newsletter (607) 277-4899



International Association of Chiefs of Police

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Alexandria, VA 22314-2357
Phone: 703-838-8787; 1-800-THE IACP
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Cable Address: IACPOLICE
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Alexandria, VA

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Chief of Staff
Eugene R. Cromette
Alexandria, VA

June 7, 2000

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), I am writing to express our strong support for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. As you know, the IACP is the world's oldest and largest association of law enforcement executives with more than 18,000 members in 100 countries.

Since its enactment in 1994, the resources provided by the Violence Against Women Act have allowed law enforcement agencies to combat gender-based violence in a more efficient and effective manner. For example, the STOP grant program has allowed law enforcement agencies throughout the nation to develop specialized training and enforcement programs that are targeted at combating violence against women. The success of these programs clearly demonstrates the need for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

Thank you for your continued efforts in support of the nation's law enforcement agencies. We look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Robinson
President

NATIONAL CENTER FOR WOMEN & POLICING

CHIEF PENNY E. HARRINGTON
Director, National Center
for Women and Policing

For Immediate Release
June 12, 2000

Contacts: Mary Hood or Julie Bernstein
323-651-0495 / 703-522-2214

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ASSISTANT CHIEF
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Portland Police Bureau

WEB SITE:
<http://www.feminist.org>

E-MAIL:
WOMENCENT@AOL.COM

National Center for Women & Policing Issues Support for Violence Against Women Act II

The National Center for Women & Policing, a project of the Feminist Majority Foundation, urges the passage of the Violence Against Women Act II (VAWA II) to protect and support women victims of domestic violence. "Money allocated by VAWA I, passed in 1994, has been key in implementing long needed law enforcement reforms in investigating and prosecuting domestic violence," said Chief Penny Harrington, director of the National Center for Women & Policing. VAWA II would not only continue funding for programs from the original Violence Against Women Act, but also expand protection for older women, disabled women, and immigrant women; set aside grants for crimes against Native American women; and provide grants for research on domestic violence.

"The first Violence Against Women Act was historic as the first federal program to address the widespread epidemic of violence against women in this country," said Chief Harrington. "VAWA created for the first time a nationwide toll-free domestic violence hotline; provided \$1.6 billion for local shelters, campus safety, equal justice in courts, and other programs to protect women."

Sections of VAWA II would provide witness protection for domestic violence victims; make it easier for battered immigrant women to leave their partners and gain legal status in the U.S.; direct critical resources toward victims who are traditionally under served through outreach programs; establish a national clearinghouse and resource center on domestic violence and sexual assault and the workplace; and provide grants for educational programs for children, law enforcement personnel, and judges, on domestic violence and sexual assault.

Editor's Note: The National Center for Women & Policing works to increase the representation of women in law enforcement with the goal to increase police responsiveness to domestic violence. The Center also provides a network for women leaders in law enforcement across the nation and works with law enforcement agencies to design programs to recruit and retain women officers. For interviews with Penny Harrington, director of the National Center for Women & Policing contact the Feminist Majority at 323-651-0495 or 703-522-2214. For more information on VAWA I & II visit www.feminist.org.

###

A DIVISION OF THE FEMINIST MAJORITY FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON D.C. LOS ANGELES

8105 WEST THIRD STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90048 · 213 651 2532 Fx 213 653 2689

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL
750 FIRST STREET NE SUITE 1100
WASHINGTON, DC 20002
(202) 326-6022
(202) 408-7014

CHRISTINE T. MILLIKEN
*Executive Director
General Counsel*

June 13, 2000

PRESIDENT
CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Attorney General of Washington

PRESIDENT-ELECT
ANDREW KETTERER
Attorney General of Maine

VICE PRESIDENT
CARLA J. STOVALL
Attorney General of Kansas

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
MIKE MOORE
Attorney General of Mississippi

The Honorable Orrin Hatch, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Henry Hyde, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairmen Hatch and Hyde:

We, the undersigned Attorneys General, in accordance with the attached resolution that was adopted by our membership in the Spring of 1998, write to urge you to enact legislation this session which would reauthorize and strengthen the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). As a result of your leadership, VAWA has enabled us to maximize the effectiveness of our state programs that have made a critical difference in the lives of women and children endangered by domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Our work, however, is far from over. In 1998, roughly one million violent crimes were committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends and girlfriends against their partners. In 1998, 41% of the female adolescent, adult and elderly victims of intimate partner violence did not report their victimizations to law enforcement. We must continue our efforts to prevent this violence.

We understand that the House Subcommittee on Crime has approved a VAWA reauthorization bill, H.R.1248, and we hope that the Judiciary Committees will approve VAW legislation, with final action as well as appropriation of funds this session. We urge you to include the following in this legislation:

1. Reauthorize through fiscal year 2005 the crucial grant programs which will enable the states to continue to enforce our laws, train our personnel, assist our victims and develop our policies and procedures. The newly released report on Intimate Partner Violence by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), finding that intimate partner violence has decreased, illustrates the effectiveness of current VAWA programs. The findings also showed that the percentage of female murder victims

Senators Hatch and Hyde

June 12, 2000

Page Two

killed by intimate partners has not declined and remains at approximately 30% - a number we find unacceptable.

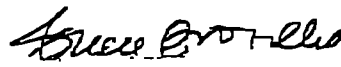
2. Strengthen VAWA by authorizing coverage of "dating relationships" in its criminal provisions and in its grants. The BJS report indicates that more than four in every ten incidents of domestic violence involves non-married persons and, further, that the highest rate of domestic violence occurs among young persons aged 16-24. Yet the VAWA as currently enacted does not authorize prosecution of their offenders. We can no longer ignore this increasingly at risk segment of the population. The abusive boyfriend of today becomes the battering husband of tomorrow.
3. Strengthen VAWA by empowering the grant programs to include assistance to children who are affected by domestic violence. The young offender in the recent school shooting in Lake Worth, Florida, who fatally shot a teacher, experienced domestic violence in his home, and underscores the reality that we must take preemptive measures to try and prevent these tragedies.

We appreciate this opportunity to share our views regarding this critically important issue. The statistics clearly illustrate that the current VAWA has enabled us to make effective inroads in combating violence against women in our states, and we support legislation which will reauthorize and strengthen the programs that will fortify our efforts. We stand ready to work with you in developing a bill that will foster the essential role of the states in protecting its women and children. Please feel free to contact any one of us directly, or NAAG Legislative Director Lynne Ross at 326-6054, if you have any comments or questions regarding our views on this legislation.

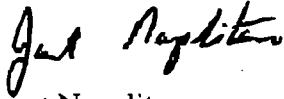
Sincerely,



Bill Pryor
Attorney General of Alabama



Bruce Botelho
Attorney General of Alaska



Janet Napolitano
Attorney General of Arizona



Mark Pryor
Attorney General of Arkansas



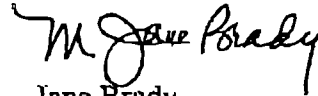
Bill Lockyer
Attorney General of California



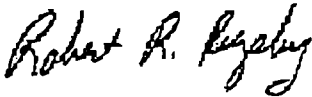
Ken Salazar
Attorney General of Colorado



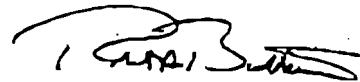
Richard Blumenthal
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Jane Brady
Attorney General of Delaware



Robert R. Rigsby
Interim Corporation Counsel
District of Columbia



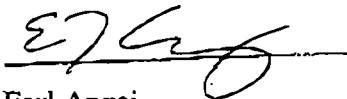
Robert Butterworth
Attorney General of Florida



Thurbert E. Baker
Attorney General of Georgia



John Tarantino
Attorney General of Guam



Earl Anzai
Attorney General of Hawaii



Alan G. Lance
Attorney General of Idaho

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL**Adopted**

**Spring Meeting
March 11-13, 1998
Washington, DC**

RESOLUTION**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

WHEREAS, each year violence against women continues to be a major cause of injury to women:

- * more than 1,000 women, about four every day, die as a result of domestic violence,
- * domestic violence continues to be a leading cause of homicide in our states,
- * 50 percent of the men who abuse their female partners also abuse their children, and

WHEREAS, more than half the female children who witness violence in the home become victims of domestic violence as adults; and

WHEREAS, one of the highest predictors of a child's future as a juvenile criminal is whether there was abuse or violence in the home of that child before age five; and

WHEREAS, the Congress will be considering reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, which has enabled the states to establish programs to help victims and to provide police training programs; and

WHEREAS, the experience of state Attorneys General indicates flexibility in use of Violence Against Women Act funds for programs assisting adult victims and children affected by domestic violence is needed to maximize the effectiveness of state programs to combat domestic violence.

WHEREAS, the Violence Against Women Act has been of critical assistance to state attorneys general because all funding has gone *directly to the states*;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it Resolved that the National Association of Attorneys General:

1. Supports reauthorization of and funding for the Violence Against Women Act, including a significant role for state Attorneys General, and stands ready to provide technical assistance to members of Congress as they reexamine this area;
2. Supports a change in the Violence Against Women Act to permit states to use Violence Against Women Act funds for programs which assist adult victims and children affected by domestic violence.
3. Encourages states to strengthen policies and regulations to protect women from violence including, but not limited to, the following:
 - provide orders of protection that are uniform throughout each state and ensure maximum protection for victims of intimate partner violence;
 - adopt uniform statewide orders of protection that are consistent with state and federal law;
 - inform parties that the order is entitled to full faith and credit in all 50 states;
 - inform parties that crossing state lines to violate a protective order is a federal crime;
 - develop system to flag protective orders that have been violated;
 - develop statewide registries for protective orders;
 - convene law enforcement review teams to review deaths of women victims of intimate partner violence, identifying gaps in the system that may have contributed to the homicide, and consider lethality assessment protocols to determine offender danger levels;
 - provide for pretrial detention of batterers;
 - strengthen and enforce stalking laws;
 - allow evidence of previous battering in domestic violence cases;
 - establish a separate crime or penalty enhancement for battering a woman in front of a child or children;

- adopt the uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act;
 - establish a rebuttable presumption against joint custody for parents who have been convicted of domestic violence;
 - develop continuing education for judges and court personnel;
 - develop innovative approaches to ensure safety for domestic violence victims;
 - support multi-disciplinary response teams for domestic violence incidents;
4. Encourages the membership to focus on issues relating to violence against women, using the NAAG project as a clearinghouse, and holding an in-depth session at a future meeting, highlighting initiatives to help children who witness violence in the home; and
 5. Urges the membership to work with the public health community, educators and others within communities to focus attention on children who witness violence and to find ways to address these concerns; and
 6. Directs the Executive Director and General Counsel to transmit these views to members of the Administration, Congress, interested individuals, and associations.



NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVES

ROBERT L. STEWART
Executive Director

*For Immediate Release
Monday, June 12, 2000*

*Contact: Robert Stewart
(703) 658-1529*

In May 2000, the Supreme Court struck down key provisions of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) which would allow continued funding for programs to keep women and children safe from the detrimental effects of domestic violence. Since its inception over six years ago, the VAWA Act has enabled the provision of \$1 billion in grants for law enforcement and battered women's shelters. As a grantee and partner with the Department of Justice, NOBLE has greatly benefitted from the funding. The organization has developed a "NOBLE" policy on domestic violence, conducted nationwide focus groups consisting of law enforcement personnel and domestic violence advocates, trained over 250 chiefs of police on implementing current policies and procedures into their response practices, and created a poster to highlight the seriousness of domestic violence.

Authorization for funding ends at the conclusion of fiscal year 2000. As an agency dedicated to serving nationwide law enforcement agencies, NOBLE strongly urges Congress to extend funding until fiscal year 2005. The continued funding would allow law enforcement agencies to develop and enhance programs that focus on: providing excellent police service (i.e. reduction in service calls and improved response times); coordinating response efforts and partnerships between law enforcement and the advocate community; educating law enforcement personnel on the critical issues of domestic violence; and most importantly, implementing departmental guidelines that contribute to the reduction of domestic violence cases.

The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) supports the re-authorization and improvement of the Violence Against Women Act grant programs. Domestic violence is a national epidemic that must be stopped! Law enforcement agencies across the nation have made goals to eliminate violence in the home, school, and work place. In order to accomplish our goal, we need the continued funding to conduct research and implement programs for the communities we serve.

###



**Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
United States Department of Justice**

**950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 1521
Washington, DC 20530**

TO: *ERIC*

From: Tim Quinn

PH:
FX: *456-2878*

PH: (202) 514-3465
FX: (202) 514-2504

Page Numbers (including cover sheet): 3

Message:

*Per your request, here is a copy of the
U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS RESOLUTION ON VAWA
IT PASSED ON MONDAY JUNE 12TH.
THE VOTE WAS BIPARTISAN AND UNANIMOUS.
PLEASE CALL WITH ANY QUESTIONS*

Tim

Resolution No. 61

Submitted By:

The Honorable Rita L. Mullins
Mayor of Palatine

REAUTHORIZATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN GRANT PROGRAMS

1. **WHEREAS**, the United States Congress passed, and President Clinton signed, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994, which strengthened criminal laws, established the National Domestic Violence Hotline, and created grant programs to encourage a comprehensive community response to violence against women across America; and
2. **WHEREAS**, VAWA and related legislation have created federally funded programs to assist state and local governments and nonprofit agencies in their efforts to address violence against women in our communities by training personnel, enforcing laws, assisting victims of violence, and holding perpetrators accountable; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services have awarded more than \$1.5 billion through VAWA grant programs since 1994, directing critical resources to our communities' collaborative efforts to respond to violence against women; and
4. **WHEREAS**, VAWA grants have provided needed federal funding to support critical state and local programming and initiatives that benefit cities across our nation, such as hiring and training law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim advocates and court personnel, creating specialized domestic violence police and prosecution units, providing shelter and services for victims of domestic violence, providing civil legal assistance for victims of domestic violence, funding community-based domestic violence and sexual assault programs, and training health care and social services professionals; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the partnership between federal, state, and local governments created by VAWA has helped jurisdictions to improve the way they handle domestic violence and sexual assault cases and establish an infrastructure needed to improve our communities' ability to respond to violence against women; and

6. **WHEREAS**, the authorization for most of these VAWA-related grant programs expires at the end of fiscal year 2000; and
7. **WHEREAS**, we must maintain and improve upon our achievements in the fight to stop violence against women, assist victims, and hold perpetrators accountable; and
8. **WHEREAS**, reauthorization legislation has been introduced in the 106th Congress,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the Violence Against Women Act grant programs and urges Congress to reauthorize these programs through fiscal year 2005 to continue to promote a comprehensive community response to violence against women; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the new VAWA legislation should contain the following elements to help our cities combat violence against women:
 - re-authorization through fiscal year 2005 of the VAWA grant programs;
 - authorizing legislation for the Domestic Violence Victims' Civil Legal Assistance Program,
 - extension to fiscal year 2005 of the authorization of the Grants to Combat Violent Crimes Against Women on Campuses Grant Program;
 - an amended definition of domestic violence under all VAWA grant programs to permit projects to target services to victims of dating violence in all jurisdictions;
 - direction of critical resources toward traditionally underserved populations;
 - a specific allocation for courts and re-authorization of grants for model judicial training programs; and
 - protection for immigrant victims of domestic violence.

Projected Cost: Unknown



**Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
United States Department of Justice**

**950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 1521
Washington, DC 20530**

TO: *ERIC*

From: Tim Quinn

PH:
FX: *456-2878*

PH: (202) 514-3465
FX: (202) 514-2504

Page Numbers (including cover sheet): 3

Message:

*Per your request, here is a copy of the
U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS RESOLUTION ON VAWA
IT PASSED ON MONDAY JUNE 12TH.
THE VOTE WAS BIPARTISAN AND UNANIMOUS.
PLEASE CALL WITH ANY QUESTIONS*

Tim

Resolution No. 61**Submitted By:**

**The Honorable Rita L. Mullins
Mayor of Palatine**

REAUTHORIZATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN GRANT PROGRAMS

1. **WHEREAS**, the United States Congress passed, and President Clinton signed, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994, which strengthened criminal laws, established the National Domestic Violence Hotline, and created grant programs to encourage a comprehensive community response to violence against women across America; and
2. **WHEREAS**, VAWA and related legislation have created federally funded programs to assist state and local governments and nonprofit agencies in their efforts to address violence against women in our communities by training personnel, enforcing laws, assisting victims of violence, and holding perpetrators accountable; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services have awarded more than \$1.5 billion through VAWA grant programs since 1994, directing critical resources to our communities' collaborative efforts to respond to violence against women; and
4. **WHEREAS**, VAWA grants have provided needed federal funding to support critical state and local programming and initiatives that benefit cities across our nation, such as hiring and training law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim advocates and court personnel, creating specialized domestic violence police and prosecution units, providing shelter and services for victims of domestic violence, providing civil legal assistance for victims of domestic violence, funding community-based domestic violence and sexual assault programs, and training health care and social services professionals; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the partnership between federal, state, and local governments created by VAWA has helped jurisdictions to improve the way they handle domestic violence and sexual assault cases and establish an infrastructure needed to improve our communities' ability to respond to violence against women; and

6. **WHEREAS**, the authorization for most of these VAWA-related grant programs expires at the end of fiscal year 2000; and
7. **WHEREAS**, we must maintain and improve upon our achievements in the fight to stop violence against women, assist victims, and hold perpetrators accountable; and
8. **WHEREAS**, reauthorization legislation has been introduced in the 106th Congress,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the Violence Against Women Act grant programs and urges Congress to reauthorize these programs through fiscal year 2005 to continue to promote a comprehensive community response to violence against women; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the new VAWA legislation should contain the following elements to help our cities combat violence against women:
 - re-authorization through fiscal year 2005 of the VAWA grant programs;
 - authorizing legislation for the Domestic Violence Victims' Civil Legal Assistance Program,
 - extension to fiscal year 2005 of the authorization of the Grants to Combat Violent Crimes Against Women on Campuses Grant Program;
 - an amended definition of domestic violence under all VAWA grant programs to permit projects to target services to victims of dating violence in all jurisdictions;
 - direction of critical resources toward traditionally underserved populations;
 - a specific allocation for courts and re-authorization of grants for model judicial training programs; and
 - protection for immigrant victims of domestic violence.

Projected Cost: Unknown

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE
NATIONAL SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

June 22, 2000

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Chairman Hatch:

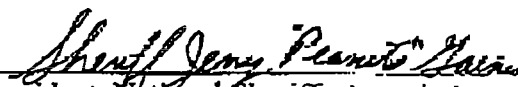
We, on behalf of the undersigned organizations, support the Violence Against Women Act II, S. 51 as modified, and urge you to schedule this bill for Judiciary Committee action and vote this legislative session. Since VAWA was enacted in 1994, the resources it provided have allowed law enforcement organizations to combat gender-based violence in a more efficient and effective manner. VAWA II will enable us to continue and strengthen our efforts to prevent these crimes. We further urge the Congress to preserve and authorize the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund, that directs its revenues to the fight against violence against women, through fiscal year 2005. Congress recognized the importance of a dedicated source of revenue in 1994 when it enacted VAWA, and this should be continued.

We urge the Judiciary Committee to act on this matter promptly, so that there will be time for the full Senate to vote on the bill this session. We appreciate the opportunity to share our views on this critically important issue, and we stand ready to work with you on this bill to protect our women and children. Please feel free to contact any one of us directly if you have any comments or questions regarding the views expressed in this letter.

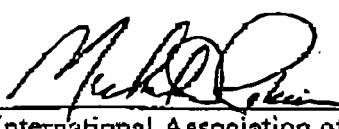
Sincerely,



President, National Association of
Attorneys General



President, National Sheriffs Association



President, International Association of Chiefs of Police

cc: The Honorable Trent Lott, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Tom Daschle, Senate Minority Leader

The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Office of Management and Budget
Legislative Reference Division
7218 New Executive Office Building
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503-0001

Date: June 23, 2000

TO:	AGENCY:	FAX Phone
Mary Smith	WH/LA	6-1647
Ann O'Leary	DPC	6-2878
Heather Howard	DPC	"
Melany Nakagiri	OMB	5-5648
Dawn Burton	DoJ	514-9149

FROM: Lisa J. Macecevic

PHONE: (202) 395-1092 FAX: (202) 395-3109 E-MAIL: Lisa.Macecevic@omb.eop.gov

COMMENTS: Attached is a copy of the final HHS letter on H.R. 1248, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA II). Let me know if you do not receive this full transmission.

Thanks again for all of your help in the clearance.

LJB



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20201

The Honorable Tom Bliley
Chairman, Committee on Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

JUN 23 2000

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We take this opportunity to inform you of the views of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on H.R. 1248, the "Violence Against Women Act of 1999". We commend your efforts to gain enactment of bipartisan legislation to reauthorize VAWA. We support the bill, though we are concerned about a few aspects as outlined below.

We recommend striking subtitle J of title I of the bill. This subtitle would reauthorize the Education and Prevention Grants to Reduce Sexual Abuse of Runaway, Homeless, and Street Youth, which program is part of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA). This reauthorization was accomplished last year in the Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children Protection Act, P.L. 106-71. We think the terms of that reauthorization are appropriate, and recommend against further change in this authorization.

We have several concerns about section 201 of the bill, which would add a section 393B, on rape prevention education, to the Public Health Service Act.

- We support proposed subsection (a)(1) of section 393B, which would reauthorize the dissemination of rape education prevention grants to the states for programs in rape prevention. However, we recommend adding to the list of purposes for which such grant funds may be used (subparagraphs (A)-(F)) an item specifically mentioning "education and training programs for students and campus personnel designed to reduce the incidence of sexual assault at colleges and universities". We believe that it is critical to provide these education and training programs at institutions of higher education where there is a high rate of sexual assault. Adding this new subparagraph will make it clear that this is an important use for grant funds.
- We also support the intent of subsection (b)(1), which would require that, when appropriations under the section reach \$80,000,000, we would establish a National Resource Center on Sexual Assault. However, we began funding such a National Resource Center in FY 1999. This is a valuable resource to the sexual assault services community, and, as a result, we recommend that the words "At

Page 2 -- The Honorable Tom Bliley

such time as appropriations under subsection (c) reach at least \$80 million" be struck from the first sentence.

- We also support the intent of subsection (c)(2), which requires that, when appropriations under the section reach \$80 million, the Secretary designate 15 percent of the total appropriation for grants to sexual assault coalitions to address public health issues associated with sexual assault. However, we recommend that this funding provision go into effect immediately. Accordingly, we recommend striking the words "At such time as appropriations under subsection (c) reach at least \$80 million, the Secretary shall designate 15 percent of the total amount appropriated to be used for making grants", and inserting "Not less than 10 percent of the total amount made available under this subsection in each fiscal year shall be used to make grants".
- Subsection (c)(3) requires that, when appropriations reach \$80 million, the Secretary designate 5 percent of the total appropriation for funding tribal sexual assault coalitions. We strongly support this provision, but we recommend eliminating the threshold because of the great need for these services.
- Subsection (c)(4) requires that at least \$1,000,000 be made available for grants for the National Resource Center, with yearly increases of at least 10% of the prior year's allotment. We believe that this provision excessively limits the Department's flexibility in balancing the funding needs of state rape prevention and education activities and those of the resource center. The NRC funding requirements may change from year to year, depending on the success of its outreach and its customer base. On the other hand, funding needs of state public health department and sexual assault coalition activities are likely to increase if those coalitions are to meet their objectives. Thus, we recommend striking the text of subsection (c)(4), and inserting the following: "Not less than 1 percent of the total amount made available under this section for any fiscal year shall be made available for grants under subsection (b).".

We are also concerned about section 203, which would amend section 393 of the PHS Act to specify that, in making grants for demonstration projects regarding domestic violence, the Secretary shall include projects in which trained nurses in hospital emergency rooms collect evidence from domestic violence victims for use in prosecutions, and shall, for purposes of such evidence-collection projects, establish programs to train nurses to collect such evidence. We recommend committing this use of section 393 funds to the Secretary's discretion rather than mandating it. This would avoid restricting the Secretary's freedom to allocate funds to the most deserving and promising demonstration projects. In addition, the Justice Department, through the STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution) grant program, 42 U.S.C. §§ 3796gg through 3796gg-5, already provides funds which may be used for this kind of evidence-collection project.

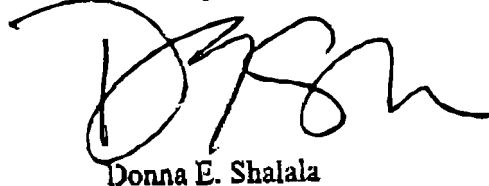
Page 3 -- The Honorable Tom Bliley

Finally, we strongly recommend adding to the bill a provision to amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), to provide a set-aside amount for evaluation, monitoring, and administrative costs of the battered women shelter grant programs. It is essential that adequate technical assistance and support be available for these important programs in order to ensure that the best possible services are provided to prevent and respond to domestic violence. These funds will allow the federal government to provide on-site technical assistance and program support to the grantees that operate these programs in states, territories, and tribal areas. This will result in enhanced sharing of information and of best practices, and in improved monitoring of federal resources. We propose a set-aside of 1.5% of the appropriated amount, and we would be happy to provide to your staff language to accomplish this.

We greatly appreciate the leadership and cooperation with which you have approached the reauthorization of these vital programs. My staff is available to discuss further minor technical changes we would like to see made in H.R. 1248. We look forward to working with you in the weeks ahead to gain House approval and final passage of legislation that takes an important step towards helping end violence against women. An identical letter is being sent to Chairman Goodling of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce and Chairman Hyde of the House Committee on the Judiciary.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Shalala", with a large, stylized initial "D" and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Donna E. Shalala



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

JUN 23 2000

The Honorable William F. Goodling
Chairman, Committee on Education and the Workforce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We take this opportunity to inform you of the views of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on H.R. 1248, the "Violence Against Women Act of 1999". We commend your efforts to gain enactment of bipartisan legislation to reauthorize VAWA. We support the bill, though we are concerned about a few aspects as outlined below.

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Page 2 -- The Honorable William F. Goodling

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Page 3 -- The Honorable William F. Goodling

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Sincerely,

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Donna E. Shalala



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

JUN 23 2000

The Honorable Henry Hyde
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Page 3 -- The Honorable Henry Hyde

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Sincerely,



Donna E. Shalala