

Tell the Senate: Reauthorize and strengthen the Violence Against Women Act.

VAWA has provided funding for life-saving services for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as well as efforts to prevent this violence for the past 24 years. It passed in 1994 and its reauthorization in 2000, 2005 and 2013, has changed the landscape for victims who once suffered in silence.

Now in the effort to renew bill, VAWA has passed the House with bipartisan support. Some Republicans, with heavy backing by the NRA, opposed the bill because of the newly added provision that restricts convicted felons of domestic abuse, assault or stalking from buying or owning a firearm (the “boyfriend loophole”), saying it infringes on [Second Amendment rights](#). The bill now moves to the Senate but we have every reason to believe that we will get the same lame arguments from the Republicans there.

The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2019 contains modest enhancements and critical fixes to existing law:

- Bar evictions of survivors based on the actions of their abusers.
- Improve criminal justice and community-based responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking
- Prohibit people with dating violence or stalking convictions from possessing firearms.
- Improve access to federal crimes databases for Native American women and affirm tribal criminal jurisdiction in cases where the assailant is not a member of the tribe.
- Strengthen protections against online harassment.
- Expand protections for LGBTQ survivors.
- Prohibits spouses or former spouses and *unmarried partners convicted of abuse from purchasing a firearms

Tell the Republican Leadership Senators: Reauthorize and strengthen the Violence Against Women Act.

Mitch McConnell - (202) 224-2541	John Barraso - (202) 224-6441
John Thune - (202) 224-2321	Roy Blunt - (202) 224-5721
Joni Ernst - (202) 224-3254	Todd Young - (202) 224-5623

Script for Calling the Republican Leadership:

Hi, I'm a Michigan voter and I'm calling to ask Senator _____ to please support the strengthened VAWA. Just as victims of domestic violence are starting to get their life back we cannot let them down fighting over politics. Pass the VAWA as is now. Thank you.