



Reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act with Strong Provisions for Native Women

Goals for VAWA 2019 Reauthorization: Expanding Victim Protections

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) addresses violence and sexual assault by providing the resources and services necessary for public safety. This bill is especially significant for Native American communities as it restores tribal jurisdiction over non-Indian assailants for crimes of domestic violence.

The House recently passed H.R. 1585, a VAWA reauthorization bill which included strong provisions protecting Native communities. **The Senate must now introduce a reauthorization of VAWA with the same strong tribal provisions as H.R. 1585.** This reauthorization should expand the current Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction to protect children, tribal law enforcement officers, and victims of all forms of violence including: sexual assault, sex trafficking, stalking, and child abuse.

The Senate Must Pass VAWA reauthorization bill that will:

- Protect Native victims of sexual assault.
- Keep Native children safe from violence.
- Promote tribal access to federal criminal databases.
- Create a protocol for responding to missing persons cases.
- Improve coordination and response rates across multiple jurisdictions involved in investigating cases of missing and murdered victims.
- Provide better tracking in cases of missing and murdered individuals and improve tribal access to this information.
- Protect tribal law enforcement from violence as they work to keep the community safe.

Expand Tribal Jurisdiction in the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act

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