Dear Speaker Ryan and Majority Leader McCarthy:

As you know, on September 30th the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is set to expire, leaving us only 7 legislative days to prevent a lapse in authorization. We therefore write to urge you to advance a bipartisan reauthorization of VAWA without delay.

Since being signed into law in 1994, VAWA has helped to protect and support millions of Americans who have faced domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This landmark legislation has drastically improved our nation’s response to these crimes and has contributed to the overall declining rates of domestic abuse since its enactment. However, instances of violence are still very common. According to the Centers for Disease Control, in our country, about 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men experience some form of contact sexual violence during their lifetime.

Programs authorized and funded under VAWA work to protect girls, boys, men, and women from these terrible crimes. The programs provide funding to ensure safety and support for survivors, increase prevention efforts, expand educational awareness surrounding domestic violence and sexual assault, implement training for health professionals and law enforcement, and to coordinate responses across agencies. We have all seen the positive impact of these programs in our districts and have met individuals in our communities who have benefited from the protections this law provides.

This is not a partisan issue. VAWA has been continually reauthorized on a bipartisan basis in Congress. We must act now to maintain and strengthen this critical law.

We urge expeditious reauthorization of VAWA and thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

John Katko  
Member of Congress

Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress

Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress

Jeff Denham  
Member of Congress
John J. Faso  
Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress

Mario Díaz-Balart  
Member of Congress

Frank A. LoBiondo  
Member of Congress

Jim Renacci  
Member of Congress

Steve Knight  
Member of Congress

Tom Reed  
Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Peter T. King  
Member of Congress

David P. Joyce  
Member of Congress

Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress

Tom MacArthur  
Member of Congress

David G. Valadao  
Member of Congress

Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress

Barbara Comstock  
Member of Congress

Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.  
Member of Congress
Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress

Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress

Mimi Walters  
Member of Congress

Jaime Herrera Beutler  
Member of Congress

Ryan A. Costello  
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John Curtis  
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Carlos Curbelo  
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Mike Bost  
Member of Congress

Mike Coffman  
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David Young  
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Kevin Yoder  
Member of Congress

Jennifer González-Colón  
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress
Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress

Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress

Susan W. Brooks  
Member of Congress

Lynn Jenkins, CPA  
Member of Congress

Bruce Poliquin  
Member of Congress

Mike Bishop  
Member of Congress

Ken Calvert  
Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress

Scott Taylor  
Member of Congress

Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress

Fred Upton  
Member of Congress

Greg Walden  
Member of Congress