



**Media Advisory:**

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**Bipartisan Violence Against Women Act Passes House; California Advocates Applaud Strong Support for Victims, Families**

Sacramento, February 28, 2013 —Today the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) reauthorization passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 286-138. The bill contains provisions to protect immigrant, LGBT and Native American victims of domestic violence, which prevented its passage in the GOP-controlled House in 2012. VAWA, which passed the Senate February 12, will now be sent to President Obama for his signature.

The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (the Partnership) and its statewide membership applaud Congress for its support for victims and families, noting that VAWA passed with near-unanimous support from the California Congressional delegation. Together with the State Legislature, which passed three resolutions supporting VAWA earlier this month, California lawmakers have shown that they are united for victim safety.

Partnership executive director Tara Shabazz thanked Congress for VAWA's passage, saying that protecting families and communities should always be a bipartisan effort.

"We were gratified to see that California's representatives on both sides of the aisle support this important legislation," she said. "We thank all the Congress Members who voted "yes" on VAWA, for standing with victims in their time of need."

The California Partnership looks forward to the President signing VAWA into law, so all victims of domestic violence have access to its life-saving services and protections.

**About the Partnership**

The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (the Partnership) is California's statewide domestic violence coalition, with organizational and individual members across the state. Working at the local, state and national levels for nearly 30 years, the Partnership has a long track record of successfully passing over 100 pieces of legislation on behalf of domestic violence victims and their children. The Partnership believes that by sharing expertise, advocates and legislators can end domestic violence. Every day we inspire, inform and connect all those concerned with this issue, because together we're stronger. With offices in Sacramento, the Partnership's member programs span the entire state.

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