

By: Reynolds

H.C.R. No. 170

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The reauthorization of the Violence Against Women
2 Act is critical to protecting Americans from gender-based violence,
3 including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and
4 stalking; and

5 WHEREAS, Gender-based violence has a devastating impact on
6 survivors, their families, and their communities; such assaults can
7 have serious health consequences for survivors and can disrupt
8 their education, undermine their ability to work, and jeopardize
9 their ability to maintain stable housing for themselves and their
10 children; and

11 WHEREAS, Since Congress passed VAWA in 1994, rates of
12 violence, on average, have decreased; the act has been reauthorized
13 three times, and H.R. 1585, the Violence Against Women
14 Reauthorization Act of 2019, introduced in the 116th Congress, is a
15 bipartisan bill that strengthens VAWA with modest yet important
16 upgrades grounded in a modern understanding of gender-based
17 violence and the needs of survivors from all backgrounds; and

18 WHEREAS, The VAWA Reauthorization Act would improve services
19 for victims and responses by health care systems; in addition, it
20 includes provisions to combat online predators of the young,
21 prevent campus violence, and reduce homicide rates by lawfully
22 protecting survivors from abusers with firearms; it would also
23 enhance legal tools to hold perpetrators accountable and increase
24 access to justice and safety for American Indian and Alaska Native

1 women; moreover, it would help mitigate the detrimental impact of
2 gender-based violence on the economic security of survivors and
3 support the ability of survivors to maintain or secure safe housing
4 in public, subsidized, and assisted housing; and

5 WHEREAS, All Americans deserve to live their lives in safety,
6 free from the threat of violence, and although the nation has made
7 significant progress in recent years, it can and should do more to
8 protect the vulnerable and ensure availability of vital resources;
9 now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
11 hereby respectfully urge the U.S. Congress to pass H.R. 1585, the
12 Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2019; and, be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
15 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
16 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
17 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
18 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
19 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
20 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.