

29
32

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To express the sense of the Senate on reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 in order to protect battered women and children.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—106th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. CON. RES. _____

(title) _____

Referred to the Committee on _____
and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mrs. MURRAY

Viz:

- 1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:
- 2 **SEC. ____ PROTECTION OF BATTERED WOMEN AND CHILD-**
- 3 **DREN.**
- 4 (a) **FINDINGS.**—The Senate makes the following
- 5 findings:
- 6 (1) Each year an estimated 1,000,000 women
- 7 suffer nonfatal violence by an intimate partner.

1 (2) Nearly 1 out of 3 adult women can expect
2 to experience at least 1 physical assault by a partner
3 during adulthood.

4 (3) Domestic violence is statistically consistent
5 across racial and ethnic lines. It does not discrimi-
6 nate based on race or economic status.

7 (4) The chance of being victimized by an inti-
8 mate partner is 10 times greater for a woman than
9 a man.

10 (5) Past and current victims of domestic vio-
11 lence are over-represented in the welfare population.
12 It is estimated that at least 60 percent of current
13 welfare beneficiaries have experienced some form of
14 domestic violence.

15 (6) Abused women who do seek employment
16 face barriers as a result of domestic violence. Wel-
17 fare studies show that 15 to 50 percent of abused
18 women report interference from their partner with
19 education, training, or employment.

20 (7) The programs established by the Violence
21 Against Women Act of 1994 have empowered com-
22 munities to address the threat caused by domestic
23 violence.

24 (8) Since 1995, Congress has appropriated
25 close to \$1,800,000,000 to fund programs estab-

1 lished by the Violence Against Women Act of 1994,
2 including the STOP program, shelters for battered
3 women and children, the domestic violence hotline,
4 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in-
5 jury control programs.

6 (9) The programs established by the Violence
7 Against Women Act of 1994 have been and continue
8 to comprise a successful national strategy for ad-
9 dressing the needs of battered women and the public
10 health threat caused by this violence.

11 (10) The Supreme Court could act during this
12 session to overturn a major protection and course of
13 action provided for in the Violence Against Women
14 Act of 1994. In *United States v. Morrison/*
15 *Brzonkala*, the Supreme Court will address the issue
16 of the constitutionality of the Federal civil rights
17 remedy under the Violence Against Women Act of
18 1994, and may overturn congressional intent to ele-
19 vate violence against women to a category protected
20 under Federal civil rights law.

21 (11) The actions taken by the courts and the
22 failure to reauthorize the Violence Against Women
23 Act of 1994 has generated a great deal of concern
24 in communities nationwide.

1 (12) Funding for the programs established by
2 the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 is the only
3 lifeline for battered women and Congress has a
4 moral obligation to continue funding and to
5 strengthen key components of the Violence Against
6 Women Act of 1994.

7 (13) Congress and the Administration should
8 work to ensure the continued funding of programs
9 established by the Violence Against Women Act of
10 1994.

11 (b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the
12 Senate that the levels in this resolution assume that, in
13 light of the pending litigation challenging the constitu-
14 tionality of the Federal civil rights remedy in the Violence
15 Against Women Act of 1994 and the lack of action on
16 legislation reauthorizing and strengthening the provisions
17 of that Act—

18 (1) Congress, through reauthorization of the
19 programs established by the Violence Against
20 Women Act of 1994, should work to eliminate eco-
21 nomic barriers that trap women and children in vio-
22 lent homes and relationships; and

23 (2) full funding for the programs established by
24 the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 will be
25 provided from the Violent Crime Reduction Fund.

VOTE ON: _____

DATE: _____

YEA

NAY

by voice vote

GRASSLEY

NICKLES

GRAMM

BOND

GORTON

GREGG

MS SNOWE

ABRAHAM

ERIST

GRAMS

SMITH

LAUTENBERG

HOLLINGS

CONRAD

SARBANES

Mrs BOXER

Mrs MURRAY

WYDEN

FEINGOLD

JOHNSON

DURBIN

CHAIRMAN