

also created new grants, administered by the Attorney General, for training programs to assist law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and court officials in addressing, investigating and prosecuting instances of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and violence against individuals with disabilities, including domestic violence and sexual assault.

VAWA 2000 authorized the Attorney General to award grants to state, local, and Indian tribal governments to provide supervised visitation and safe visitation exchange for children involved in situations of domestic violence, child abuse, or sexual assault.

Several studies were authorized in VAWA 2000. These included studies of (1) insurance discrimination against victims of domestic violence; (2) workplace effects of violence against women; (3) unemployment compensation for women who are victims of violence; and (4) parental kidnapping. VAWA 2000 also required the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to develop a research agenda and plans to implement the agenda based on the National Academy of Sciences' recommendations in the report *Understanding Violence Against Women*.

VAWA 2000 contains the Battered Immigrant Women Protection Act of 2000, which provides for increased protection of immigrant women who are victims of domestic abuse, and creates special rules for alien battered spouses and children to allow them to remain in the United States. VAWA 2000 also established a task force to coordinate research on domestic violence.

VAWA 2000 established a definition for "dating violence" and amended the existing law so that STOP grants, Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies, and Rural Domestic Violence grants can be awarded for programs to combat dating violence, defined as violence committed by a person (A) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and (B) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: (i) the length of the relationship; (ii) the type of relationship; and (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

In 2005, Congress reauthorized VAWA, through the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (VAWA 2005). VAWA 2005 reauthorized many existing programs for FY2007 through FY2011, and authorized a number of new programs for victims of domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The act emphasized collaboration among law enforcement, health and housing professionals, and women, men, and youth alliances, and encouraged community initiatives to address these issues.

VAWA 2005 advanced the ball to protect battered women and children. Specifically, VAWA 2005 programs sought to focus on young victims of violence; improve the health care system's response to violence; inform the public and employers about domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; protect the privacy of victims of violence; provide housing assistance, including public housing, for battered women and children; and support outreach efforts to underserved populations such as ethnic, immigrant, and racial populations.

In an effort to more closely monitor the status and performance of some of these pro-

grams, VAWA 2005 provided for some grant recipients to submit reports on policies and procedures they followed. The act also provided funding for studies and research on effective interventions that prevent both acts and effects of domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Over the past 15 years, the federal government, with the use of the public treasury has funded interventions which have lowered assault rates. This intervention is estimated to have saved over \$14 billion in public safety resources that would have been required had VAWA programs not prevented or addressed cases of domestic violence in each of the fifty states and all of the U.S. territories.

I have worked with formidable organizations such as Texans Against Sexual Assault, who work to bring voices to women who have been victims of sexual crimes, and helping them along an emotional recovery. Also, the Texas Council on Family Violence, which has connected more than 15,000 Texas victims of domestic violence with emergency shelter and protection.

In 2005, I offered an Amendment to the VAWA to provide \$2 million for the Office on Violence Against Women, the Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs account for "child abuse training programs for judicial personnel and practitioners." This allocation would be offset by the Edward Byrnes Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program and transferring the funds to the Office on Violence Against Women, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Program. Instead, I proposed that this money be channeled to a program that has been significantly under-funded for many years, the Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Program's account for child abuse training programs for judicial personnel and practitioners as authorized by section 222 of the 1990 Act. Domestic Violence is of the utmost concern, to me and my constituents. However, in the past, the chronic lack of funding and resources has left a number of child victims in the cold to cope with the horrible and immense physical and psychological effects of the abuse that they have endured.

As we look down the road for future VAWA reauthorizations, I urge my colleagues to focus on how we can take a more comprehensive look at domestic violence. Indeed, violence between family members and others related by special relations requires a dedication of resources to address problems that could be addressed by conflict management counseling and other mental health treatment. Indeed, juvenile justice data shows that families who are separated as a result of VAWA programs may also have an unintended consequence of contributing to juvenile delinquency, particularly amongst children of color, young boys in particular.

Together we must take a stand and work together for Women's rights, as well as the rights for families. We must work on building a brighter future, and make gender based and family based violence a thing of the past. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms.

WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 738.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HIMES) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 6, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 459, by the yeas and nays;

H. Con. Res. 59, by the yeas and nays.

Proceedings on H. Res. 260 will resume later in the week.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL COACHES APPRECIATION WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 6, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 6.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 0, not voting 45, as follows:

[Roll No. 696]

YEAS—388

Abercrombie	Bachmann	Berkley
Aderholt	Bachus	Berman
Adler (NJ)	Baird	Berry
Akin	Baldwin	Biggert
Altmire	Barrow	Bilbray
Andrews	Bartlett	Bilirakis
Arcuri	Barton (TX)	Bishop (GA)
Austria	Bean	Bishop (NY)
Baca	Becerra	Bishop (UT)