

March 21, 2016

The Hon. Charles Grassley, Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Leahy,

We, the undersigned groups, representing a broad cross section of the criminal justice and victim advocacy communities, respectfully request your support for S. 2577, the *Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016* (introduced by Sens. Cornyn and Leahy). This bipartisan legislation builds on the Justice for All Act to improve the criminal justice system, help victims, and exonerate the innocent.

S. 2577 strengthens victims' rights and programs by increasing access to restitution and reauthorizing victim notification grants, as well as renewing the program to provide legal help to victims.

The act improves the use of DNA to provide justice to more victims, by supporting work to reduce the rape kit backlog, assisting law enforcement in auditing backlogged cases, and expanding the use of sexual assault nurse examiners in underserved communities. It also works to make sure DNA protects the innocent by improving access to post-conviction DNA testing.

Additionally, the bill works to improve the administration of criminal justice programs by requiring the Justice Department to assist state and local government to improve their indigent defense systems. It also strengthens the *Prison Rape Elimination Act* by improving accountability measures to ensure states enact rape reduction policies as quickly as possible and protecting VAWA funding streams that are critical to their crime prevention and victim support efforts.

Because this bill has tremendous potential to improve victims' access to justice, support law enforcement, exonerate the innocent, and strengthen and improve the criminal justice system, we urge the committee to bring this bill up for timely consideration and passage.

Sincerely,

National and International Supporters

American Association of University Women
American Congress of Black Women
Americans Overseas Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Association of Prosecuting Attorneys

Association of VAWA Administrators
Campaign for Youth Justice
Center for Black Equity
Center for Women Policy Studies
Child Justice, Inc.
Church of Scientology National Affairs Office
Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI)
The Constitution Project
DNA Saves
End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI)
Federal Community Corrections Contractors Coalition
H-E-A-R-T, Inc.
Human Rights Campaign
Human Rights Project for Girls (Rights4Girls)
IJS Institute
Innocence Project
International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN)
International CURE
International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO
Jewish Community Watch (JCW)
Joyful Heart Foundation
Just Detention International
JWI
Legal Momentum
Major Cities Chiefs Association
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
National Alliance of Gang Investigators
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA)
Natasha's Justice Project
National Juvenile Justice Network
National Center for Victims of Crime
National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence
National Children's Alliance
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs
National Criminal Justice Association
National Domestic Violence Hotline

National Legal Aid and Defender Association
National Network to End Domestic Violence
National Organization for Women (NOW)
National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, Inc.
NOW Young Feminists and Allies
Pretrial Justice Center
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)
RISE
School Violence Law
The Voices and Faces Project
VOICE MALE
Women's Bureau, Inc.

State & Local Supporters

A Better Way Services, Inc., IN
Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children, TX
Albemarle Hopeline, NC
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC)
Brevard NOW, FL
The Bridge Crisis Center for Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault, NE
California NOW
Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation
Collins Center & Child Advocacy Center, VA
Concho Valley Rape Crisis Center, TX
CONTACT of Burlington County, NJ
Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center, NY
Crime Victim Services, OH
Crime Victims Alliance of Pennsylvania (CVAP)
Crime Victims Assistance Center, Inc., NY
Crisis Center, Inc., IN
Families First, Inc., NC
The Family Place, TX
Family Violence Appellate Project, CA
Fannin County Family Crisis Center, TX
Fort Bend County Women's Center, TX
Freedom House, TX
Gwinnett Sexual Assault & Children's Advocacy Center, GA

HAVEN, Inc, WI
HAVIN (Helping All Victims in Need), PA
Hays-Caldwell Women's Center, Texas
Healing Hearts and Families, NE
Healing Hearts -- Northern Cheyenne Tribe, WY
Illinois NOW
Institute for Science and Human Values, Inc.
Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Laurel Center for Domestic and Sexual Violence, VA
Matagorda County Women's Crisis Center, TX
Metropolitan Center for Women and Children, LA
Middlesex County NOW-NJ
Missouri National Organization for Women (NOW)
New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
New Jersey NOW
New York Women in Film & Television
Ni-Ta-Nee NOW, PA
Northern New Jersey NOW
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR)
Pennsylvania NOW
People Against Rape (PAR), SC
Rape Crisis Center, TX
Rape Crisis Center, Inc., WI
Renee Olubnmi Rondeau Peace Foundation (RORFP), GA
RESPONSE to Sexual and Domestic Assault, NH
Safe Connections, MO
Safe Space Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program, MT
San Gabriel Valley/Whittier NOW, CA
Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern CT
Sexual Assault Support Center, Inc., GA
Sexual Assault Resource Center (SARC), TX
Shoals Crisis Center, AL
Tacoma NOW, WA
Tennessee NOW
Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA)
Thurston County NOW, WA
Time to Tell, Leverett, MA
Tri-County Help Center, Inc., OH

Virginia NOW

Victim Resource Center of Finger Lakes, Inc., NY

Vienna Area NOW, VA

Voices Against Violence, VT

Washington State NOW

Winnemucca Domestic Violence Services, Inc., NV

Women's Center of Jacksonville

Women's Center of Tarrant County, TX

Women's Coalition of St. Croix

Women's Crisis Center, OH

YWCA Delaware Sexual Assault Response Center

YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago, IL

YWCA South Hampton Roads, VA