

**As Introduced**

**133rd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2019-2020**

**H. C. R. No. 19**

**Representative Galonski**

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**A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

To urge the United States Senate to reauthorize the 1  
Violence Against Women Act. 2

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, The reauthorization of the Violence Against Women 3  
Act (VAWA) is critical to protecting Americans from gender-based 4  
violence, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual 5  
assault, and stalking; and 6

WHEREAS, The 1994 VAWA encouraged multi-level responses to 7  
combat violence by enhancing the ability of states to 8  
investigate and prosecute violent crimes perpetrated against 9  
women, requiring the imposition of automatic and mandatory 10  
restitution on those convicted of these crimes, permitting the 11  
federal prosecution of interstate domestic violence and sexual 12  
assault cases and the enforcement of interstate protection 13  
orders, and allowing for civil redress in cases that prosecutors 14  
chose not to prosecute; and 15

WHEREAS, The VAWA was renewed with bipartisan support in 16  
2000, 2005, and 2013 with updates grounded in a modern 17  
understanding of gender-based violence and the needs of 18  
survivors from all backgrounds; and 19

WHEREAS, The VAWA continues to support comprehensive and 20

cost-effective responses to the crimes of domestic violence, 21  
sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking on the federal, 22  
state, and local levels; and 23

WHEREAS, Gender-based violence has a devastating impact on 24  
survivors, their families, and their communities; such assaults 25  
can have serious health consequences for survivors and can 26  
disrupt their education, undermine their ability to work, and 27  
jeopardize their ability to maintain stable housing for 28  
themselves and their children; and 29

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 30  
reports that more than 1 in 3 women in the United States 31  
experience sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking by an 32  
intimate partner in their lifetime; and 33

WHEREAS, In 2018, according to the Ohio Attorney General's 34  
Office, there were 65,845 reported cases of domestic violence in 35  
Ohio with an overwhelming number of the victims being female; 36  
and 37

WHEREAS, From July 2018 through June 2019, the Ohio 38  
Domestic Violence Network reported 81 domestic violence 39  
fatalities in Ohio; and 40

WHEREAS, The most recent reauthorization of the VAWA 41  
expired on February 19, 2019; and 42

WHEREAS, The reauthorization bill, H.R. 1585, includes 43  
reforms that would expand Services, Training, Officers, and 44  
Prosecutors (STOP) grants to include additional community 45  
resources for responding to incidences of domestic violence; 46  
increase funding to support youth violence prevention education 47  
programs; expand firearm restrictions to include individuals 48  
with misdemeanor convictions for domestic violence or stalking 49  
and to include dating partners; expand programs focused on 50  
children impacted by domestic violence; increase grants for 51

combatting violent crimes on college campuses; allow transgender 52  
women to serve in prisons that align with their gender identity 53  
and to access women's shelters; preserve and expand housing 54  
protections and provide economic assistance for survivors of 55  
sexual assault or domestic violence; and enhance law enforcement 56  
tools and safeguards for the Office on Violence Against Women in 57  
the U.S. Department of Justice; and 58

WHEREAS, The United States House of Representatives passed 59  
H.R. 1585 on April 4, 2019, with bipartisan support, but the 60  
United States Senate has thus far failed to do so; now therefore 61  
be it 62

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 133rd General 63  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the United States Senate to 64  
pass H.R. 1585, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act 65  
of 2019; and be it further 66

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 67  
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 68  
President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore and 69  
Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of 70  
the United States House of Representatives, each member of the 71  
Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio. 72