Leveraging the Federal Legislative & Appropriations Processes to End Sexual Violence!

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The National Alliance is the voice in Washington for the 56 state and territorial sexual assault coalitions and 1300 rape crisis centers working to end sexual violence and support survivors.
Federal Policy Priorities

Appropriations (SASP, RPE, PHHSBG, VOCA)

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

Emerging Sexual Assault Policy Issues
Current Approach to Policy Prioritizing

Intersectionality
Margins to Center
Unapologetically bold
Proactive rather than reactive

Bringing the whole truth about what we need to end sexual violence and heal survivors to policymakers!

Gathering broad input from the field.
Legislative Process

- Appropriations
- Authorization
- Legislation
Key Committees

Commerce, Justice & Science Appropriations Subcommittee (CJS): Jurisdiction over all DOJ appropriations including VAWA (SASP) & VOCA.

Labor, Health & Human Services, Education Appropriations Subcommittee (HHS): Jurisdiction over all HHS appropriations including CDC (RPE and PHHSBG Funding)

Senate & House Judiciary Committees: VOCA, VAWA, Justice for All, Adam Walsh, SA Survivors’ Rights Act

House Education & the Workforce and Senate HELP Committees: Campus sexual assault issues; forensic exam issues
Appropriations Process

- Fiscal Year
- President’s Budget
- Budget Resolution
- Appropriations Bills (or omnibus)
- Conference
- Continuing Resolutions (CR)
Appropriations Timeline

December: Develop Summary to Describe Current Program Spending and Need for Increase

February: Compare to President’s Proposed Budget

January-February: Demonstrate National/State/Local Support for Request

Feb/March: Deadlines to Submit Funding Requests to Members of Congress and Members of Congress Submit their Priorities to Appropriations Subcommittees

April/May: House/Senate Appropriations Subcommittees Markup

June/July: House/Senate Approve Appropriations Bills

Sept: House/Senate Appropriations Conference Committees

Sept/Oct: House/Senate Approve Appropriations Conference Bills

Oct-Dec: President Signs Appropriations Bills (later with CR)

Agency Secures Federal Funding/OMB approves spending plans, minimum three-month process to begin distributing funds.
Appropriations Priorities

VAWA
SASP
VOCA

RPE
PHHSBG Rape Set-Aside
Commerce Subcommittee Members

Republicans
- John Culberson, Texas, Chairman
- Robert Aderholt, Alabama, Vice Chair
- John Carter, Texas
- Jaime Herrera Beutler, Washington
- Martha Roby, Alabama
- David Jolly, Florida
- Steven Palazzo, Mississippi

Democrats
- Mike Honda, California, Acting Ranking Member
- Chaka Fattah, Pennsylvania
- José Serrano, New York
- Derek Kilmer, Washington

SUBCOMMITTEES
- Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
- Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
  - Press Releases
  - Hearings and Markup
  - Related Documents
  - Member List
  - Jurisdiction
- Defense
- Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies
- Financial Services and General Government
- Homeland Security
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

Chairman
Richard Shelby

Vice Chairwoman
Barbara Mikulski

Republican Members
Labor Subcommittee Members

Republicans

- Tom Cole, Oklahoma, Chairman
- Mike Simpson, Idaho
- Steve Womack, Arkansas, Vice Chair
- Chuck Fleischmann, Tennessee
- Andy Harris, MD, Maryland
- Martha Roby, Alabama
- Charlie Dent, Pennsylvania
- Scott Rigell, Virginia

Democrats

- Rosa DeLauro, Connecticut, Ranking Member
- Lucille Roybal-Allard, California
- Barbara Lee, California
- Chaka Fattah, Pennsylvania
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

CHAIRMAN
Roy Blunt

RANKING MEMBER
Patty Murray

MEMBERS
NEWS
HEARINGS
JURISDICTION

REPUBLICAN MEMBERS
Budget Outlook
Legislative Process

Bill Introduced
Assigned to committee
Marked-up, voted
Rules committee
Floor
Authorizations
Conference
President
Gathering input from the field (AUGUST 2016 – NOVEMBER 2016)
Substantive workgroups begin in fall of 2016
Dream bill drafted by June 2017
SUMMER 2017, start shopping bill to co-sponsors & begin lobbying and social media/grassroots organizing
By JANUARY 2018, lobbying/social media in high gear
Aspirational goal of reauthorizing VAWA in MARCH 2018
Other Key Legislative/Advocacy Issues

Campus
Backlog/Forensic Exam Issues
Criminal Justice Initiatives
Opposing Anti-Transgender Initiatives
Housing
Tribal rights and services
Military Sexual Assault
The Big Picture

What you need to know about what’s happening in DC right now.
Mobilizing Grassroots

What motivates you to take action?
NAESV Strategies

SAPolicyWatch-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Call alerts
District meetings
Advocacy day
Targeted meetings
Participating in coalitions
Your congressional delegation

Each state has 2 senators.

Each state has variable number of representatives based on population.

Your senators and representatives combined make up the congressional delegation from your state. These are your members of Congress.
Reaching out in District

Relationship building—staff and member!

Recess
Tour
SAAM Event
New Member Packet
Social Media
More laid back
Bring a group

What does your member want to know about right now? Campus? Sex Offenders?
What do you want them to know about right now?
Sharing your story

- Systems transformed and improved
- Model projects and collaborations
- Numbers served
- Stories of lives transformed
- Cost savings, effectiveness
- Data
Reaching out to D.C. office

Google member and Check out member page
Call D.C. office
Ask for the name of the right staffer
Leave a voicemail and send an email
Firstname.lastname@mail.house.gov
D.C. Meetings

Thanks
Short
Staff
Story and program details
Make an ask
Follow-up
Communication Is Key:

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<th><strong>Do</strong></th>
<th><strong>Don’t</strong></th>
<th><strong>Tips</strong></th>
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<td>Start by Requesting a meeting (email).</td>
<td>Don’t refer to a legislator by his/her first name, unless you are a close personal friend.</td>
<td>Know the congressional schedule; don’t use postal service; don’t continue to call when an email exchange will work; must have name, address, and phone.</td>
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<td>Make the issue relevant to the elected official.</td>
<td>Don’t go to a meeting without doing your homework first.</td>
<td>Be prepared. Sign up for his/her newsletters and review press releases.</td>
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<td>Know ahead of time who will oppose your idea and how to respond to criticism</td>
<td>Don’t take an issue to a Member’s office if they have historically never supported the issue.</td>
<td>Be part of a larger movement; legislators want input from community leaders.</td>
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<td>Be professional; be on time, be respectful.</td>
<td>Don’t try and have long discussions about policy or folks from home, time is limited.</td>
<td>Don’t mix up the staff or Member’s political party, don’t approach at the airport or grocery store.</td>
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<td>Make sure stakeholders are supportive; utilize a board member who is close to elected officials.</td>
<td>Don’t intentionally mislead; stay out of the weeds because details can come later.</td>
<td>If you don’t know the answer, offer to follow-up.</td>
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<td>Follow-up in a timely manner, especially if you are clarifying an issue for them.</td>
<td>Don’t miss the window of opportunity to influence the process.</td>
<td>Know the congressional schedule and know the legislative process.</td>
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<td>Utilize your resources such as NAESV.</td>
<td>Don’t misrepresent the position of a stakeholder.</td>
<td>Educate, utilize grassroots, utilize grass-tops, social media, collaborate, and mobilize.</td>
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Dare to be powerful!

Use your strength and smarts and voice in the service of your vision to:

END SEXUAL VIOLENCE