

THE BIPARTISAN TASK FORCE TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence is a problem in our districts and communities across the nation. The Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence’s legislative agenda is a collection of bipartisan bills that work to prevent and address instances of sexual violence by responding to the unique challenges presented in our education system, military, workplaces, online, and throughout society.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Protecting Children

1. H.R. 4655 *Curbing Realistic Exploitative Electronic Pedophilic Robots (CREEPER) Act*..... pg. 2
2. H.R. 2268 *Empowering Educators to Prevent Trafficking Act*..... pg. 3

Campus Sexual Violence

3. H.R. 1949 *Campus Accountability and Safety Act*..... pg. 4

Military Sexual Trauma

4. H.R. 927 *Ensure Victims of Military Sexual Trauma Receive Treatment Act*..... pg. 6

Online Harassment and Sexual Violence

5. H.R. 3067 *Online Safety Modernization Act*..... pg. 7
6. H.R. 4472 *Ending Nonconsensual Online User Graphic Harassment (ENOUGH) Act*..... pg. 9

Improved Data Collection and Law Enforcement Training

7. H.R. 1762 *The Pro Bono Work to Empower and Represent (POWER) Act*..... pg. 11
8. H.R. 3887 *Safeguarding Addresses from Emerging (SAFE) at Home Act*..... pg. 12
9. H.R. 4893 *Improve Data on Sexual Violence Act* pg. 14

Sexual Assault Kit Backlog

10. H.R. 3415 *Megan Rondini Act*..... pg. 15
11. H. Res. 909 *Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the need for State legislatures to pass comprehensive sexual assault kit reform by 2020*..... pg. 16

General Awareness

12. H. Res. 829 *Recognizing and supporting the goals and ideas of national Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month*..... pg. 18
 13. H.R. 1963 *Fair Housing for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Survivors Act*..... pg. 19
- Task Force Contact Information.....pg. 21

Protecting Children

H.R. 4655

Curbing Realistic Exploitative Electronic Pedophilic Robots (CREEPER) Act

Sponsor: Rep. Daniel Donovan (R-NY)

Cosponsors: 32 (29 Republicans & 3 Democrats)

Task Force Members Cosponsors: Joyce (R-OH), Bacon (R-NE), Kuster (D-NH)

Committees: House Committee on the Judiciary

Status: Passed the House by voice vote under suspension of the rules on June 13, 2018.

Related Bills: N/A

Office Contact: Tiffany Howard (Tiffany.Howard@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: Stop Abuse, Foundation for Responsible Robotics

Background: Emerging psychology on the topic of child sex dolls says the obscene dolls encourage abuse of real children. In the United Kingdom, the government has cracked down on the import of child sex dolls. Their national agencies have seized 128 dolls over the course of a year, and found that 85% of the men who imported these dolls were also found in possession of child pornography. The sex doll industry has created increasingly realistic representations of human flesh and behavior, with some being able to simulate rape for users. Realistic child sex dolls act as a tool, not only to encourage, but to simulate and train those who wish harm on real children.

Description: Amends Section 1462 of Title 18 USC to add child sex dolls to the list of obscene items banned in interstate commerce, thereby outlawing the sale of child sex dolls in the United States.

H.R. 2268
Empowering Educators to Prevent Trafficking Act

Sponsor: Susan Davis (D-CA)

Cosponsors: 11 (7 Republicans & 4 Democrats)

Task Force Members Cosponsors: Wagner (R-MO), Jenkins (R-KS), Comstock (R-VA), Sewell (D-AL), Kuster (D-NH)

Committees: House Committee on Education and the Workforce

Status: The language of H.R. 2268 was included in H.R. 2200, which has passed the House and awaits action in the Senate. The Task Force would like to see the language of H.R. 2268 in any final package that is signed into law.

Related Bills: N/A

Office Contact: Armita Pedramrazi (Armita.Pedramrazi@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force, the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives, Polaris Project, the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, the Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking, and ECPAT-USA.

Background: The United States is not immune to the horrific problem of human trafficking—within our own borders, hundreds of thousands of people are trafficked every year, and roughly half of them are children. We must do more to prevent these tragic cases and identify victims early on. Teachers and other school employees are particularly well-positioned to recognize and respond to signs of trafficking in their students, and with proper training, they can be an important line of defense in the fight against child trafficking.

Description: This bill authorizes the Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to award grants to local educational agencies to:

- Train school staff to recognize and respond to signs of labor and sex trafficking.
- Provide classroom curricula to students on how to avoid becoming victims of labor and sex trafficking.

Campus Sexual Violence

H.R. 1949

Campus Accountability and Safety Act

Sponsor: Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY)

Cosponsors: 30 (4 Republicans & 26 Democrats)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Costello (R-PA), Poe (R-TX), Frankel (D-FL), Maloney (D-NY), Sewell (D-AL), Wasserman-Schultz (D-FL), Jayapal (D-WA)

Committees: Education and the Workforce

Status: Pending

Identical Bills: S. 856 McCaskill (D-MO)

Office Contact: Christina Parisi (Christina.Parisi@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: N/A

Background: According to data from the U.S. Department of Education, college campuses reported over 8,000 forcible sex offenses (rape and fondling) in 2015 – but a recent Department of Justice study shows that the actual number of offenses is estimated to be roughly four times that number. Colleges must create an environment where more students feel comfortable coming forward to report sexual assault so more perpetrators can be brought to justice.

The bipartisan Campus Accountability and Safety Act would protect students and professionalize the response to and reporting of sexual assault.

Description: This bipartisan legislation incentivizes schools to protect students and professionalize the response to and reporting of sexual assault.

- Establishes new campus resources and support services for students and survivors, including a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator to assist survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

- Requires fairness in campus disciplinary process by requiring schools to use a uniform process for campus student disciplinary proceedings, prohibiting athletic departments from handling individual adjudications.
- Ensures minimum training for on-campus personnel that handle investigations and response.
- Requires schools to complete biennial, anonymous campus climate surveys, and publish the results online so students can make informed decisions when comparing universities.
- Requires schools to enter into memoranda of understanding with local law enforcement to clearly delineate responsibilities and facilitate law enforcement investigations.
- Establishes stiffer penalties for Title IX and Clery violations.

Military Sexual Trauma

H.R. 927

Ensure Victims of Military Sexual Trauma Receive Treatment Act

Sponsor: Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-IN)

Cosponsors: 35 (11 Republicans & 24 Democrats)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Jenkins (R-KS), Comstock (R-VA), Jones (R-NC), Ann Wagner (R-MO), Bustos (D-IL), Moore (D-WI), Cohen (D-TN), Kuster (D-NH), Speier (D-CA)

Committee: Veterans' Affairs

Status: Pending

Related Bills: N/A

Office Contact: Martin Schultz (Martin.Schultz@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: Association of the United States Navy and Paralyzed Veterans of America

Background: While it is VA policy to provide all healthcare related to military sexual trauma (MST) treatment free of charge, a VA Inspector General report highlighted how many veterans are often required to travel far distances for treatment but are unable to obtain the travel benefits to access the care they need.

Description:

H.R. 927 allows victims of MST to be reimbursed for travel outside of their Veteran Integrated Service Network (VISN) when seeking treatment.

Online Harassment and Sexual Violence

H.R. 3067

Online Safety Modernization Act

Sponsor: Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA)

Cosponsors: 7 (5 Republicans & 2 Democrats)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Kuster (D-NH)

Committees: House Committee on the Judiciary

Status: Pending

Related Bills: N/A

Office Contact: Steve Thornton (Steve.Thornton@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: Facebook, the National District Attorneys Association, the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, the Anti-Defamation League, the National Network to End Domestic Violence, the Cyber Civil Rights Initiative, Legal Momentum, Stop Online Violence Against Women, the National Council of Women's Organizations, the Women's Media Center, the FBI Agents Association, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, the Major Cities Chiefs Association, and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Background: According to a study by the Pew Research Center, 20% of adult internet users have been affected by cyberstalking, persistent harassing e-mails, or other unwanted online contact. For far too many Americans, the online harassment is extreme, including abuse like 'sextortion,' 'swatting,' or 'doxxing.'

Sextortion is a type of online sexual exploitation in which threats are used to coerce victims to engage in sexual activity against their will. The Department of Justice recently declared that sextortion is "by far the most significantly growing threat to children," and that "sextortion cases tend to have more minor victims per offender than all other child sexual exploitation offenses." One study estimated 3,000-6,500 victims were affected in just 78 cases of sextortion, and an FBI analysis found that 28% of sextortion cases had at least one victim who attempted or committed suicide.

Swatting is a targeted attack in which perpetrators report fake emergency situations in an attempt to provoke an emergency law enforcement response aimed at frightening their victims, causing property damage, or physical harm. The FBI estimates that approximately 400 swatting attacks occur every year, and each attack can cost local law enforcement anywhere from a few thousand dollars to \$100,000. Swatting attacks have already resulted in victims being shot, injury to law enforcement officers, and at least one victim has been killed.

Doxxing is the weaponization of personally identifiable information. Perpetrators of these attacks collect their victim's private information including a home address, Social Security number, bank account passwords, or cell phone number. This information is then packaged together and shared widely online to encourage widespread abusive, threatening behavior. Victims are often subjected to identity theft, forced to flee their homes, or pay for professional security services.

Description: H.R. 3067 criminalizes the use of the interstate telecommunications system to coerce a victim engage in a sexual act or sexual contact or to:

- Produce a sexually intimate visual depiction
- Extort or coerce a victim using a sexually intimate visual depiction
- Knowingly transmit false information in an effort to cause an unnecessary emergency law enforcement response
- Knowingly publish a victim's personally identifiable information (including sexually intimate visual depictions) with the intent to harm

This legislation provides the FBI with additional enforcement resources and requiring the DOJ to designate Assistant U.S. Attorneys as responsible for prosecution. Finally, it establishes a grant program to train and equip state and local law enforcement, prosecutors, and judicial personnel and establish a national resource center to provide technical assistance to address cybercrimes against individuals.

H.R. 4472
Ending Nonconsensual Online User Graphic Harassment (ENOUGH) Act

Sponsor: Jackie Speier (D-CA)

Cosponsors: 14 (8 Republicans & 6 Democrats)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Costello (R-PA), Jones (R-NC), Bustos (D-IL), Clark (D-MA), Joyce (R-OH), Moore (D-WI), Comstock (R-VA), Dingell (D-MI)

Committees: Judiciary

Status: Pending

Related Bills: S.2162 (Harris D-CA)

Office Contact: Molly Fishman (molly.fishman@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: AT&T, Cyber Civil Rights Initiative, Facebook, Family Online Safety Institute, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), Feminist Majority, Girls, Inc., Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF), Internet Association, Major County Sheriffs of America, National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys (NAAUSA), National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), National Organization for Women (NOW), Oath, Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN), Snap Inc., The Future of Privacy Forum, Twitter, Women’s Media Center.

Background: Nonconsensual sharing of private, explicit images is a problem that increasingly and disproportionately targets women and minors. While the best-known examples are “revenge porn” and “sextortion,” these violations occur in many other scenarios. Examples include a California Highway Patrol officer who forwarded intimate pictures from female motorists’ cellphones as part of a “game” among colleagues, Penn State fraternity brothers who uploaded photos of unconscious, naked women to a members-only Facebook page for entertainment purposes, and websites that intentionally solicited thousands of sexually explicit private images for profit and entertainment. Victims of these egregious privacy violations report frequent harassment and significant distress about losing control over their intimate privacy, their relationships, and their reputation.

Description: This legislation narrowly establishes criminal liability for individuals who share private, explicit images without consent. While 40 states and D.C. currently have similar statutes in this area, they offer incomplete and inconsistent coverage. The ENOUGH Act includes a

number of civil liberties safeguards while ensuring that the Department of Justice has an appropriate and effective tool for addressing these serious privacy violations. If a person shares a nude image, knowing there is a substantial risk that the person depicted does not consent, that would be a federal crime. Similarly, if a person makes a true threat or extortionate demand about sharing a nude image, that would be a federal crime.

Improved Data Collection and Law Enforcement Training

H.R. 1762

The Pro Bono Work to Empower and Represent (POWER) Act

Sponsor: Joe Kennedy (D-MA)

Cosponsors: 30 (13 Republicans & 17 Democrats)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Joyce (R-OH), Davis (R-IL), Lance (R-NJ), Bacon (R-NE), Kuster (D-NH), Clark (D-MA), Cohen (D-TN), Tsongas (D-MA), Speier (D-CA), Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY), Dingell (D-MI)

Committees: House Committee on the Judiciary

Status: Pending

Related Bills: S. 717, Sen. Sullivan (R-AK)

Office Contact: Eric Finn (Eric.Finn@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: N/A

Background: N/A

Description:

- Once each year, each U.S. Attorney is required to hold at least one public event promoting pro bono legal services to empower victims and survivors of domestic violence. If the district contains a Native American tribe or tribal organization, the U.S. Attorney must conduct an event in partnership with that tribe at least once every three years.
- Each year, the U.S. Attorneys shall report to the Attorney General detailing the public events held. The Attorney General shall submit an annual report to Congress summarizing the events, and providing an analysis and suggested improvements for future events.’
- The Department of Justice shall use existing funds to carry out the requirements of this Act.

H.R. 3887
Safeguarding Addresses from Emerging (SAFE) at Home Act

Sponsor: Jason Smith (R-MO)

Cosponsors: 22 (11 Republicans & 11 Democrats)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Wagner (R-MO), Comstock (R-VA), Sinema (D-AZ), Kennedy (D-MA), Gabbard (D-HI), Kuster (D-NH), Dingell (D-MI)

Committees: House Committee on the Judiciary

Status: Pending

Related Bills: S. 1889, Sen. Blunt (R-MO)

Office Contact: Andrew Gradison (Andrew.Gradison@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: National Association of Secretaries of State, National Network to End Domestic Violence, and National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Background: To date, thirty-six states have implemented address confidentiality programs to shield the new addresses of survivors of domestic violence from disclosure in court filings or other government business. These address confidentiality programs help survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, rape, human trafficking, or stalking in their efforts to stay safe by providing a designated substitute address to use when creating new public records. These services keep survivors' confidential addresses out of the hands of their assailants.

Unfortunately, some federal agencies have failed to recognize and abide by state address confidentiality laws, putting survivors in unnecessary risk. The SAFE at Home Act would require federal agencies, departments, courts, and any other similar public entities to recognize state address confidentiality programs. Under this legislation, federal entities must recognize and accept the designated addresses of participants in state address confidentiality programs and abide by state restrictions on the disclosure of participants' private information so that survivors of domestic violence have full protection.

A Senate companion bill, S. 1889, was introduced by Senator Blunt of Missouri, Senator Klobuchar of Minnesota, Senator Blumenthal of Connecticut, Senator Capito of West Virginia, Senator Cornyn of Texas, Senator Hassan of New Hampshire, and Senator McCaskill of Missouri.

Description: Requires Federal agencies and Federal courts to comply with address confidentiality programs, which allow survivors of domestic violence to shield their home address in public record to prevent their abuser from finding them, meaning that:

- Federal agencies and courts must be in compliance with state address confidentiality programs
- Individuals who provide an address different from their own to Federal agencies or courts cannot be subject to any Federal regulatory, civil, or criminal penalties for providing this address in lieu of their actual physical address.
- Any Federal agency or court seeking an individual's actual physical address must comply with applicable procedures to obtain said address.
- After acquisition, the individual's address must be kept confidential, and is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act

H.R. 4893
Improve Data on Sexual Violence Act

Sponsor: Ann Kuster (D-NH)

Cosponsors: 3 (2 Republicans & 1 Democrat)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Poe (R-TX), Turner (R-OH), Speier (D-CA)

Committees: House Committee on the Judiciary

Status: Pending

Related Bills: S. 2349, Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO)

Office Contact: Sam Cooper-Wall (Sam.Cooper-wall@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: N/A

Background: The legislation will implement recommendations from a Government Accountability Office report that found vast differences in data collection efforts—including the use of 23 different terms to describe sexual violence.

Description: This bill directs the Office of Management and Budget to establish an interagency working group to study federal efforts to collect data on sexual violence and to make recommendations on efforts to coordinate sexual violence data collection to produce complementary information, without compromising programmatic needs.

The working group shall consider:

- what activity constitutes different acts of sexual violence,
- whether reports that use the same terms for acts of sexual violence are collecting the same data on these acts,
- whether the context which led to such an act should impact how that act is accounted for in reports,
- whether the data collected is presented in a way that allows the general public to understand what acts of sexual violence are included in each measurement, and
- steps that agencies that compile reports relating to sexual violence can take to avoid double counting incidents.

Sexual Assault Kit Backlog

H.R. 3415

The Megan Rondini Act

Sponsor: Rep. Ted Poe (R-TX)

Cosponsors: 12 (4 Republicans & 8 Democrats)

Co-Lead: Maloney (D-NY)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Issa (R-CA), Wagner (R-MO), Sewell (D-AL), Schiff (D-CA), Kuster (D-NH), Conyers (D-MI), Tsongas (D-MA), Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)

Committees: Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce

Status: Pending

Related Bills: N/A

Office Contact: Kristina Thompson (Kristina.Thompson@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: Shared Hope, Fairness, Dignity & Respect for Victims & Survivors Washington DC, Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Violence Washington DC, Network for Victim Recovery of DC, Denver District Attorney Office, Child Justice, Inc.

Background: Texas native Megan Rondini was a student at the University of Alabama when she was sexually assaulted in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. After escaping her attacker, Megan went directly to the hospital for a rape kit and contacted the police. The hospital did not have a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE), a nurse or doctor trained in forensic procedure, on staff. The DNA from her rape kit was never examined, and its current whereabouts are publicly unknown. She was dismissed, ignored, blamed, and forgotten. Feeling like she had nowhere to turn, Megan later took her own life.

Description: Named in honor of Megan Rondini, this legislation would require all critical access hospital have a sexual assault forensic examiner (SAFE) available 24 hours a day/7 days a week, or to have a plan in place to get a victim to another nearby hospital with a SAFE.

This legislation also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to annually publish a list of each hospital or critical access hospital that maintains a SAFE program.

H. Res. 909

Expressing the sense of the House of Representative regarding the need for State legislatures to pass comprehensive sexual assault kit reform by 2020

Sponsor: Rep. Dave Joyce (R-OH)

Cosponsors: 6 (2 Republicans & 4 Democrats)

Task Force Member Cosponsors: Donovan (R-NY), Speier (D-CA), Kuster (D-NH), Boyle (D-PA), Wasserman Schultz (D-FL), Walters (R-CA)

Committees: House Committee on the Judiciary

Status: Pending

Office Contact: Kendall Kalagher (Kendall.Kalagher@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: Joyful Heart Foundation, Rape Abuse Incest National Network (RAINN), and the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN)

Background: In June, 2017, the Task Force held its first Member-level roundtable on Capitol Hill; the discussion focused on the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) backlog and access to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs). The panelists included Ms. Mariska Hargitay, an actress (Law and Order: SVU), activist, and advocate for survivors of sexual assault; Lavinia Masters, an entrepreneur, speaker, author, and sexual assault survivor; Dr. Jenifer Markowitz, from the International Association of Forensic Nurses; Nathan James, an analyst in crime policy for the Congressional Research Service; and Prosecutor Michael O'Malley and Chief Rick Bell, from Task Force Co-Chair Dave Joyce's congressional district. The roundtable was remarkably helpful in educating our colleagues, staff, and attendees about the challenges our nation faces when it comes to the hundreds of thousands of SAKs that have yet to be processed. More importantly, the panelists shed light on potential solutions. To lay the groundwork for change, the Task Force Co-Chairs worked together on this resolution to outline the steps that States can take to reform their SAK processing and rid our nation of this backlog.

Description: Under H. Res. 909, it is the sense of the House that State legislatures should pass sexual assault kit reform legislation that requires, among other provisions:

- The State to work together with sexual assault advocates, SANEs, law enforcement, and others. This will help ensure the process to respond to incidents of sexual violence is victim-centered and developed collaboratively among relevant parties.

- In order to understand the scope of the SAK backlog, States to conduct an annual statewide audit to inventory all untested SAKs.
- Law enforcement to promptly submit all kits, previously untested and newly collected, to a laboratory for DNA testing and upload the results into the appropriate databases to help identify potential suspects and repeat offenders.

General Awareness

H. Res. 829

Recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of “National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month”

Sponsor: Tom Reed (R-NY)

Cosponsors: 42 Total (10 Republicans & 32 Democrats)

Task Force Member cosponsors: Joyce (R-OH), Jenkins (R-KS), Pearce (R-NM), Walters (R-CA), Costello (R-PA), Comstock (R-VA), Speier (D-CA), Kuster (D-NH), Boyle (D-PA), Clark (D-MA), Costa (D-CA), Cohen (D-TN), Wasserman Schultz (D-FL), Maloney (D-NY)

Committees: House Committee on the Judiciary

Status: Pending

Related Bills: S. Res. 499, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)

Office Contact: Samara Brown (Samara.Brown@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: National Sexual Violence Resource Center, the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, and the Rape and Incest National Network (RAINN)

Background: Every 98 seconds an American is sexually assaulted – an average of 320,00 victims per year. This Resolution seeks to bring awareness to these heinous crimes and calls all Americans to action to bring an end to this epidemic.

Description: Expresses support for the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

Recognizes that National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month provides an opportunity for sexual violence education and sexual assault prevention, treatment, and prosecution. Calls for:

- Acknowledging survivors and commending volunteers and professionals who assist them;
- recognizing and applauding national and community organizations and private sector supporters; and
- recognizing and applauding public safety, law enforcement, and health professionals.

H.R. 1963

Fair Housing for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Survivors Act

Sponsor: Rep. Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)

Cosponsors: 9 (4 Republicans & 5 Democrats)

Task Force Members Cosponsors: Jayapal (D-WA), Raskin (D-MD), Maloney (D-NY), Kuster (D-NH)

Committees: House Committee on the Judiciary

Status: Pending

Related Bills: S. 858, Sen. Shaheen (D-NH)

Office Contact: Matthew Ellison (Matthew.Ellison@mail.house.gov)

Supporting Organizations: N/A

Background: According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), one in four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. Recovery from domestic violence begins with safe and secure housing. Yet, some domestic violence victims face discrimination based on their status as victims. A recent study by the New York Attorney General's Office found that 67 percent of domestic violence counselors listed discrimination by landlords as a 'significant obstacle' for victims. The National Center on Homelessness & Poverty and the National Network to End Domestic Violence found common reasons victims are denied housing including: 1) the victim's former residence was a domestic violence shelter, 2) the victim had a civil order of protection against an abuser, or 3) the victim's previous landlord disclosed she was a victim of domestic violence.

The Fair Housing Act (FHA) prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin in the sale or rental of housing, the financing of housing, or the provision of brokerage services. In general, the FHA applies to public/private, single family homes, apartments, condominiums, mobile homes, and others.

Description: This bill amends the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination against or regarding survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault in:

- the sale or rental of housing and related activities,
- residential real estate-related transactions, and

- the provision of real estate brokerage services.

This bill declares that nothing in the Act shall prohibit federal, state, or local government or other assistance or a preference program designed to assist or benefit domestic violence or sexual assault survivors in seeking, securing, or maintaining dwellings, shelters or any other form of housing.

The Civil Rights Act of 1968 is amended to prohibit intimidation in fair housing transactions regarding survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault.

TASK FORCE STAFF CONTACTS

Republican Co-Chair Dave Joyce

- Staff Contact: Kendall Kalagher – Kendall.Kalagher@mail.house.gov
- Office Ext. 55731

Republican Co-Chair Dan Donovan

- Staff Contact: Tiffany Howard - Tiffany.Howard@mail.house.gov
- Office Ext. 53371

Democrat Co-Chair Ann McLane Kuster

- Staff Contact: Sam Cooper-Wall – Sam.Cooper-wall@mail.house.gov
- Office Ext. 55206

Democrat Co-Chair Jackie Speier

- Staff Contact: Molly Fishman – Molly.Fishman@mail.house.gov
- Office Ext. 53531

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Jackie Walorski	Carolyn Maloney
Carlos Curbelo	Pramila Jayapal
Lynn Jenkins	Lois Frankel
Ryan Costello	Katherine Clark
Ted Poe	Gwen Moore
Tom Reed	Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Leonard Lance	Sean Patrick Maloney
Don Bacon	Niki Tsongas
Mimi Walters	Steve Cohen
Kevin Yoder	Debbie Dingell
Peter King	Brendan Boyle
Mike Turner	Jim Costa
Ann Wagner	Josh Gottheimer
Rodney Davis	Tom O'Halleran
Barbara Comstock	Joe Kennedy
Jason Smith	Susan Davis
	Terri Sewell
	Brad Sherman

NOTE: The Legislative Agenda should not be construed as an endorsement of the included bills by every individual Member of the Task Force. The agenda will be updated on a rolling basis as these bills progress through the House and additional legislation is reviewed for consideration to be included.