Indigenizing VAWA and VOCA Through Tribal Grassroots Organizing and Movement Building

National Indigenous Women's Resource Center



American Indians



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Purpose

Prepare the field for VAW Task Force Meeting June 3, 2018 at NCAI in Kansas City.

The Violence Against Women Act

VAWA 2013 Review

- Historic Amendment
- Restored inherent tribal jurisdiction to prosecute non-Natives for:
 - Domestic violence
 - Dating Violence
 - Criminal Violations of a Protection Order
- Requirements
- Ties of Defendant

VAWA 2018 Update

- What is needed
 - Scope needs to be expanded to include
 - Co-attendant instances of child abuse
 - Crimes occurring against public safety and justice officials
 - Sexual assault
- Where we are currently on VAWA 2018
- Challenges

Proposed Legislation

Native Youth & Tribal Officer Protection Act

•<u>S. 2233</u> - Introduced by Senators Udall (D-NM), Murkowski (R-AK), and Cortez Masto (D-NV).

•Reaffirms tribal criminal jurisdiction over some crimes committed by non-Indians including: child abuse and crimes that are committed against certain public safety & justice officials.

•Referred to the Indian Affairs Committee.

Justice for Native Survivors Act

•<u>S. 1986 -</u> Introduced by Senators Franken (D-MN) and Murkowski (R-AK).

•Reaffirms tribal criminal jurisdiction over some crimes committed by non-Indians including: sexual assault, stalking, and trafficking.

•Referred to the Indian Affairs Committee.

Tribal Law & Order Act Reauthorization

<u>S. 1953</u> - Introduced by Senator Hoeven (R-ND):

•reauthorizes the grant programs included in the TLOA 2010;

•extends the Bureau of Prisons pilot program by 9 years;

•makes the Shadow Wolves program within the Department of Homeland Security permanent;

•directs the Federal Public Defender to designate a tribal liaison for each district that includes Indian Country;

•requires DOJ to do additional data collection related to trafficking of Native Americans;

•Requires coordination and consultation on juvenile offenses and delinquency prevention;

The bill was reported favorably by the SCIA in February 2018.

The Survive Act

•<u>S. 1870/HR 4608</u>: directs that five percent of the total annual outlays from the Crime Victims Fund (CVF) be provided to Indian tribes to provide crime victim services.

•Would result in approx \$130-150M for crime victim services in Indian Country annually

The bill was reported favorably by the SCIA in December 2017.

Savanna's Act

•<u>S. 1942/HR 4485</u> - improve the response to missing and murdered Native women by

- improving tribal access to the federal criminal information databases,
- requiring data collection on missing and murdered Native people, and
- directing the U.S. DOJ to develop law enforcement and justice protocols to address missing persons.

VOCA Update

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•<u>FY2018</u>

•3% set aside in the Crime Victims Fund for tribal governments in the FY18.

Still not a permanent fix.

VOCA Update FY19

•FY2019

- No set aside in CJS Appropriations Bill
- Mobilization efforts
 - NTF Letter
 - NCAI Letter
 - NIWRC Alert

VOCA Update FY19

McCollum/Cole Amendment

- Included 5% set aside for FY19
- Mobilization efforts
 - NCAI Alert
 - NIWRC Alert
 - Alert sent to NTF
- Amendment passed House Appropriations on voice vote
- Next steps/looking forward
 - The Senate will mark-up its version of the CJS appropriations bill the week of June 11.

Preparing for TF Meeting

Importance of the TF meeting

NCAI Resolution on VOCA

Process for passing



Thank you!

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