Indigenizing VAWA and VOCA Through Tribal Grassroots Organizing and Movement Building
Introductions

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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

• S. 2233 - 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

• S. 1986 - 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.
S. 1953 - 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

• **S. 1870/HR 4608**: 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

• S. 1942/HR 4485 - 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
VOCA Update

- FY2018

- 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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