July 12, 2022

The Honorable Lois Frankel
2305 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ken Buck
2455 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Frankel and Buck,

On behalf of RALIANCE, a national partnership dedicated to ending sexual violence in one generation, and the 36 national, state, and local organizations signed below working in their communities every day to end sexual violence, we are writing to express our support for H.R. 8227, the SPEAK OUT Act, which would limit the enforceability of pre-dispute non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) in situations in which sexual assault and sexual harassment survivors wish to break their silence. The bill does not impact any NDAs as part of a settlement agreement.

We know sexual violence thrives in secrecy, and to end sexual violence we must bring sexual assault, abuse, and misconduct into the open and support survivors in seeking justice and healing. Accountability and responsiveness to issues of sexual harassment and misconduct are essential to efforts to prevent and respond to sexual violence. The secretive nature of NDAs thwarts efforts to make systemic change and limits individual survivors’ options. The SPEAK OUT Act will help our collective efforts to bring equity to the workplace and to ultimately end sexual violence.

We are grateful to you for introducing the SPEAK OUT Act and look forward to supporting your efforts to ensure this legislation becomes law.

Sincerely,

Terri Poore, MSW
Policy Director
**National Organizations:**

Alliance of Tribal Coalitions to End Violence  
Esperanza United (Formerly Casa de Esperanza National Latin@ Network)  
Futures Without Violence  
Justice for Migrant Women  
Legal Momentum, the Women’s Legal Defense and Education Fund  
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence  
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Network to End Domestic Violence  
National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault  
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence  
SafeBAE  
Tahirih Justice Center  
The Army of Survivors  
The National Domestic Violence Hotline  
ValorUS

**State/Local Organizations:**

Arizona Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence  
DC Rape Crisis Center  
Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking  
Jane Doe Inc. (MA Coalition Against SA/DV)  
Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault  
Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Missouri Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (MOCADSV)  
NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence  
New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence  
New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape
South Dakota Coalition Ending Domestic and Sexual Violence
Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services
Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault
YWCA Kauai