

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 17, 2024

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro,

We write to express our deep concern regarding the funding cuts to the Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) program and the elimination of funding for the Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancements and Leadership Through Alliances (DELTA) program in the FY25 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) appropriations bill. These programs are critical to our national efforts to prevent and address sexual and domestic violence.

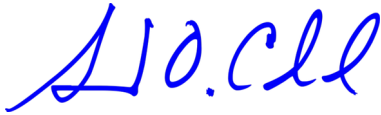
The RPE program, first authorized through the Violence Against Women Act in 1994, has been crucial in preventing sexual violence. It funds state and territorial health departments, rape crisis centers, and sexual assault coalitions to support rape prevention and education initiatives. These initiatives engage boys and men as partners, promote healthy social norms, and use evidence-based strategies to prevent sexual violence before it begins. The program has successfully reduced the self-reported frequency of sexual violence by over 50% through campaigns like Green Dot. However, many programs still face waiting lists, staffing shortages, and increased demand for services. The FY25 LHHS appropriations bill includes a reduction of over \$20 million in funding for the RPE compared to last year's levels.

The DELTA program is the only federal funding source dedicated to the primary prevention of domestic violence. Administered by the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, DELTA supports community and societal strategies in about 50 communities nationwide. It focuses on improving conditions in schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods, addressing social, economic, and environmental factors that protect against violence. Evidence shows that DELTA's strategies can decrease domestic and dating violence rates and improve protective factors. Despite its effectiveness, funding for the program was excluded from the FY25 LHHS appropriations bill.

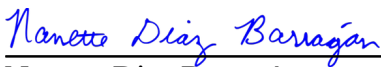
In FY23 and FY24, the RPE program was appropriated \$61.75 million, and the DELTA program received \$7.5 million. We urge you to restore the funding for the RPE program and the DELTA program to these previous funding levels. Investing in the prevention of sexual and domestic violence is not only a moral imperative but also a sound economic decision, as it reduces the long-term costs associated with these forms of violence. By supporting these programs, we can continue to build safer communities and protect the well-being of individuals and families across the nation.

Thank you for your leadership and your attention to this critical issue. We look forward to working with you to ensure the continued support and success of these essential programs.

Sincerely,



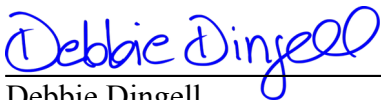
Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



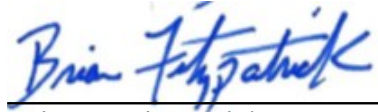
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



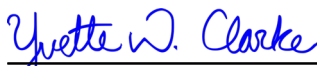
Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



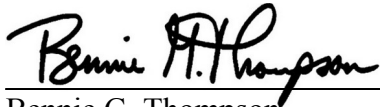
Lori Chavez-DeRemer
Member of Congress



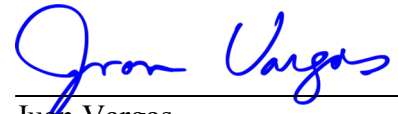
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



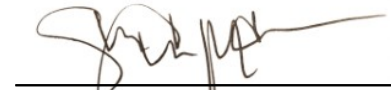
Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



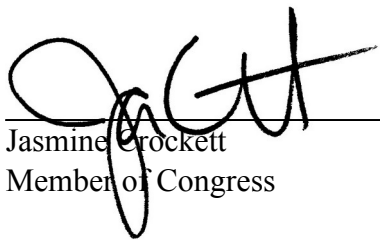
Katie Porter
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



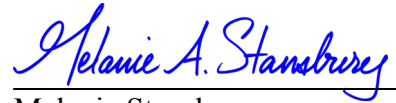
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



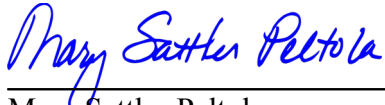
Donald G. Davis
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



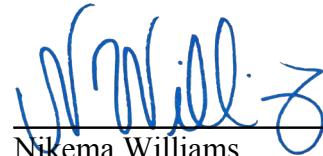
Mary Sattler Peltola
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



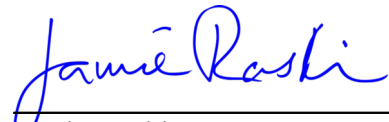
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



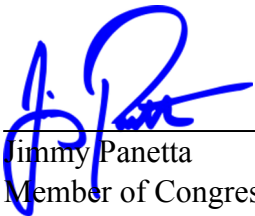
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



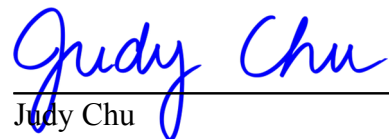
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



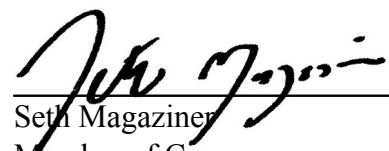
Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



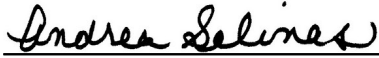
Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



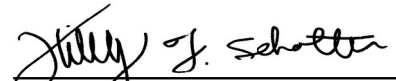
Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



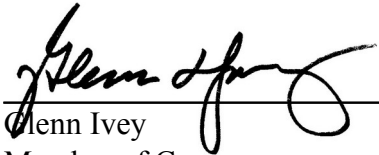
Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress