

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4848

To establish the Violence Against Women Office within the Department of Justice.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 13, 2000

Mr. FORBES (for himself, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. FROST, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. BALDACCI, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. CARSON, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. EVANS, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. STARK, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. REYES, Mr. HOFFEL, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. HILLIARD, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. ROTHMAN, Ms. LEE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. FARR of California, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To establish the Violence Against Women Office within the Department of Justice.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Violence Against  
3 Women Office Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**  
5 **OFFICE.**

6       (a) OFFICE.—There is hereby established within the  
7 Department of Justice, under the general authority of the  
8 Attorney General, a Violence Against Women Office (in  
9 this Act referred to as the “Office”).

10       (b) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by a Di-  
11 rector (in this Act referred to as the “Director”), who  
12 shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice  
13 and consent of the Senate. The Director shall report to  
14 the Attorney General through the Associate Attorney Gen-  
15 eral. The Director shall have final authority for all grants,  
16 cooperative agreements, and contracts awarded by the Of-  
17 fice. The Director shall not engage in any employment  
18 other than that of serving as the Director, nor shall the  
19 Director hold any office in, or act in any capacity for, any  
20 organization, agency, or institution with which the Office  
21 makes any contract or other arrangement under this Act.

22 **SEC. 3. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF DIRECTOR OF VIO-**  
23 **LENCE AGAINST WOMEN OFFICE.**

24       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall have the fol-  
25 lowing duties:

1           (1) Serving as special counsel to the Attorney  
2       General on the subject of violence against women.

3           (2) Maintaining liaison with the judicial  
4       branches of the Federal and State Governments on  
5       matters relating to violence against women.

6           (3) Providing information to the President, the  
7       Congress, the judiciary, State and local govern-  
8       ments, and the general public on matters relating to  
9       violence against women.

10          (4) Serving, at the request of the Attorney Gen-  
11       eral or Associate Attorney General, as the represent-  
12       ative of the Department of Justice on domestic task  
13       forces, committees, or commissions addressing policy  
14       or issues relating to violence against women.

15          (5) Serving, at the request of the President,  
16       acting through the Attorney General, as the rep-  
17       resentative of the United States Government on  
18       human rights and economic justice matters related  
19       to violence against women in international forums,  
20       including, but not limited to, the United Nations.

21          (6) Carrying out the functions of the Depart-  
22       ment of Justice under the Violence Against Women  
23       Act of 1994 (title IV of Public Law 103–322) and  
24       the amendments made by that Act, and other func-  
25       tions of the Department of Justice on matters relat-

1       ing to violence against women, including with re-  
2       spect to those functions—

3               (A) the development of policy, protocols,  
4       and guidelines;

5               (B) the development and management of  
6       grant programs and other programs, and the  
7       provision of technical assistance under such  
8       programs; and

9               (C) the award and termination of grants,  
10      cooperative agreements, and contracts.

11      (7) Providing technical assistance, coordination,  
12      and support to—

13              (A) other elements of the Department of  
14      Justice, in efforts to develop policy and to en-  
15      force Federal laws relating to violence against  
16      women, including the litigation of civil and  
17      criminal actions relating to enforcing such laws;

18              (B) other Federal, State, and tribal agen-  
19      cies, in efforts to develop policy, provide tech-  
20      nical assistance, and improve coordination  
21      among agencies carrying out efforts to elimi-  
22      nate violence against women, including Indian  
23      or indigenous women; and

1           (C) grantees, in efforts to combat violence  
2           against women and to provide support and as-  
3           sistance to victims of such violence.

4           (8) Exercising such other powers and functions  
5           as may be vested in the Director pursuant to this  
6           Act or by delegation of the Attorney General or As-  
7           sociate Attorney General.

8           (9) Establishing such rules, regulations, guide-  
9           lines, and procedures as are necessary to carry out  
10          any function of the Office.

11 **SEC. 4. STAFF OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN OFFICE.**

12          The Attorney General shall ensure that the Director  
13          has adequate staff to support the Director in carrying out  
14          the Director's responsibilities under this Act.

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