

who claimed the police did not do enough to prevent her violent husband from killing their 3 young daughters. The ruling said Jessica Gonzales did not have a constitutional right to police enforcement of the protective court order against her husband.

The heartbreaking details of this case show the desperate need for legislation. That's why I have drafted the Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistance Program, which will restore some of the effectiveness of protective orders.

The Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistance Program would place special victim assistants in local law enforcement agencies to serve as liaisons between the agencies and victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in order to improve the enforcement of protection orders.

I support the underlying bill and the renewal of the Violence Against Women Act.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 3402, a measure that reauthorizes most Justice Department programs through FY 2009, with some extended through FY 2010. I support this measure because it provides crucial funding for Justice Department programs. The bill authorizes \$95 billion through FY 2010, including \$5.8 billion for the FBI in FY 2006, and \$5 billion for Federal prisons.

I am especially glad to see that this bill reauthorizes programs funded under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) which is designed to combat crimes often targeted toward women, such as stalking, domestic violence, and sexual assault. During the past decade, VAWA of 1994 and 2000 have provided tremendous protections and support for victims of domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault. VAWA funding has provided law enforcement agencies, the judicial system, rape crisis centers, and domestic violence shelters with the expertise and services they need to do the work of prevention and protection of those affected by violence. The reauthorization of VAWA will allow us to continue to fund crucial and successful programs and expand on 10 years of progress to further provide safety and stability for survivors of gender-based violence.

I am disappointed that late last night, Judiciary Majority staff submitted a manager's amendment which strikes "racial and ethnic minorities" from the definition of underserved populations in the STOP grants section of VAWA. STOP grants are the heart of VAWA funding. Without this language, domestic violence prevention and treatment services specifically targeting women of color and immigrant victims of domestic violence will continue to be shortchanged. This language change is a major flaw in the Manager's Amendment and I oppose the amendment.

H.R. 3402 also merges the Byrne Grant Program and the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program, and renames it the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program. It authorizes \$1.1 billion for this program in FY 2006 and such sums as are necessary for fiscal years 2007 through 2009. Finally, the bill re-organizes the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program by consolidating all the different grant programs into a single block grant program. The bill authorizes \$1 billion in each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009 for this important crime fighting program.

Mr. Chairman, this is a very good bill overall and I am glad to see Republicans working

with Democrats on such an important measure.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of several important programs that will be reauthorized in H.R. 3402, The Department of Justice Authorization Act. The two programs that I'd like to highlight are the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program and the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP). Both COPS and SCAAP provide critical resources that help local law enforcement do their job.

The COPS program consists of Federal grants to provide assistance to eligible police departments to help improve community policing efforts and law enforcement support activities including: hiring or rehiring police officers, purchasing equipment; paying overtime; and building support systems.

The COPS program has long had bipartisan support in Congress, even in the face of repeated proposed budget cuts from this Administration. Despite these budget proposals Congress worked in a bipartisan way to appropriate funding for the COPS program and ensure that our local law enforcement agencies continued to receive these valuable grants. I hope that the formal reauthorization of the COPS program through H.R. 3402 clarifies the Congressional recognition of the significance of the COPS programs to local law enforcement, and the importance of the COPS program now and in the future.

The SCAAP reimburses states and localities for the cost of detaining criminal aliens. These funds are critical for local law enforcement agencies; especially those in border states like California, that routinely cover the cost of incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens. Between FY2001 and FY2005, SCAAP funding decreased by \$265 million. This is unacceptable and places a significant burden on cash-strapped States that desperately need reimbursement.

I supported the Kolbe/Dreier/Lewis amendment to increase the authorized funding for SCAAP to \$750 million for FY06, \$850 million for FY07, and \$950 million for FY08–11. I am pleased that this amendment was accepted as it will provide much needed funds to the states and improve their ability to work with the Federal government on border security and immigration issues.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, for 10 years, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) has strengthened communities and provided critical, life-saving support to victims of violence. VAWA has meant that no victim of violence has to suffer in silence. This legislation has been a tremendous success in addressing an appalling problem: since VAWA was enacted in 1994, states have passed more than 660 laws to combat domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. The National Domestic Violence Hotline has answered more than 1 million calls. VAWA has strengthened communities across the country and saved countless lives. But we can and must do more.

Women should feel safe whether in public or private: In their workplace, in their homes, and walking on the street. Yet many women continue to live in fear. One in three American women report being physically or sexually abused by a partner at some point in their lives, and more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in this

country every day. We cannot tolerate the violence, abuse, and sexual assault that pervade our communities. As a nation, we must fight this epidemic in every way possible.

Today, the House reauthorized VAWA, making dramatic improvements to the existing law by establishing new rape crisis centers and increasing grants for community organizations that work to prevent and eliminate domestic violence. The reauthorization of VAWA is a critical step and a national commitment to keep future generations of women and children safe.

Unfortunately, the spirit of VAWA came under attack today by the House Republicans. Judiciary Committee Chairman SENSENBRENNER offered an amendment that eliminated carefully crafted provisions of the bipartisan bill that recognized that racial and ethnic minorities face unique challenges in reporting and getting help for domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking and stalking. With this change, domestic violence prevention and treatment services specifically targeting women of color and immigrant victims of domestic violence and sexual assault will continue to be shortchanged.

VAWA is one of the crowning achievements of the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues and a truly bipartisan success. I urge the Senate to reject the Sensenbrenner amendment and return the bill to its original, bipartisan version.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. All time for general debate has expired.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KING of Iowa) having assumed the chair, Mr. LAHOOD, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3402) to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1604

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOEHNER) at 4 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.