Action Alert: Contact Your Senators with this message:
Support Floor Action on VOCA this week!
Vote YES on final passage of the #VOCAFIX
Vote NO on Senator Toomey's amendment.

DATE

Please forward widely!!!

Senator Schumer along with a bipartisan group of senators is planning to bring the **#VOCA Fix to the Floor this week for final passage.** We need every Senator to support their plan to pass the bill!

Background

As, you know, on March 17, the House of Representatives passed the *VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021* ("the *VOCA Fix Act*") with overwhelming bipartisan support. This critical legislation will prevent devastating cuts to federal funding for victim service programs through the Victims of Crime Act ("VOCA"). Senator Durbin has brought the Senate VOCA Fix bill to the floor twice to ask for unanimous consent to pass the bill, but unfortunately, there was an objection both times.

The situation is extreme! Federal **grants to victim services** through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) have been cut by two-thirds in the last four years. Congress can fix this by ensuring federal financial penalties from deferred prosecution and non-prosecution agreements are treated the same way as penalties resulting from criminal convictions - that they go to serve and compensate crime victims. But there is hope!

It is time for the Senate to send the #VOCAFix to the President's desk!

On **Wednesday**, **July 14**, *call*, *email*, *and tweet* your Senators with this message:

Support Floor Action on the VOCA Fix this week! Vote YES on final passage of the House-passed VOCA Fix bill, H.R. 1652, and vote NO on Senator Toomey's amendment which would kill the bill. Don't leave for recess and leave crime victims behind!

Call the US Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121. If you don't know who your Senators are, click <u>here</u>. You can email them through their websites.

A toolkit with information about how to find their contact information, sample telephone scripts, and sample emails can be found here to see if your Senators are already sponsors.

Elevate your asks on social media! Here are some sample tweets:

.@[MySenator] Don't leave for recess and leave crime victims behind! Vote yes on House-passed #VOCAFix & no on the Toomey amendment. There's a #Crisis4Victims.

- .@[MySenator] Support floor action on the House-passed #VOCAFix bill this week! Vote yes on final passage and no on the Toomey amendment. Support a clean bill that will help solve the #Crisis4Victims.
- .@[MySenator] With each day that passes, millions of dollars are left on the table that could help solve the #Crisis4Victims. Don't let services disappear as advocates are laid off. Pass the House-passed #VOCAFIx with no amendments before recess!
- .@[MySenator] over 1,710 advocates have asked for the #VOCAFix as is. Thank you for sponsoring this legislation. Support the House-passed bill on the Floor with no amendments. https://tinyurl.com/44yde6r3

Don't let the Senate leave another \$545 million on the table while services disappear and advocates are laid off! Take Action on July 14!

For more information, contact Denise Edwards (dedwards@nca-online.org), Rachel Graber (rgraber@ncadv.org), Terri Poore (terri@endsexualviolence.org), Monica McLaughlin (mmclaughlin@nnedv.org), Daisy Pagan (daisy@navaa.org), and Dan Eddy (dan.eddy@nacvcb.org).