



(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To establish a National Domestic Violence Prevention Action Plan to expand, intensify, and coordinate domestic violence prevention efforts among Federal, State, local, and Tribal government agencies and with other relevant stakeholders, and for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. WEXTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To establish a National Domestic Violence Prevention Action Plan to expand, intensify, and coordinate domestic violence prevention efforts among Federal, State, local, and Tribal government agencies and with other relevant stakeholders, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Domestic Vio-  
5 lence Prevention Action Plan Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Domestic violence is a serious public health  
4 problem and more than 10 million individuals expe-  
5 rience domestic violence in the United States each  
6 year.

7 (2) According to the National Intimate Partner  
8 and Sexual Violence Survey in the United States—

9 (A) more than 1 in 4 women and nearly 1  
10 in 10 men will experience contact sexual vio-  
11 lence, physical violence, or stalking by an inti-  
12 mate partner and experience an intimate part-  
13 ner violence related impact in their lifetime; and

14 (B) approximately 1 in 4 women and 1 in  
15 7 men experience severe physical violence by an  
16 intimate partner in their lifetime.

17 (3) More than half of female homicides are con-  
18 nected to intimate partner violence and in a domes-  
19 tic violence situation the presence of a gun increases  
20 the risk of homicide by 500 percent.

21 (4) While domestic violence can affect anyone,  
22 research indicates that communities of color, individ-  
23 uals with disabilities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and  
24 other marginalized communities can be dispropor-  
25 tionately impacted.

1           (5) Domestic violence leads to the loss of nearly  
2           8 million days of work each year the lifetime eco-  
3           nomic burden on victims is \$3.6 trillion, in which the  
4           government pays approximately \$1.3 trillion (37%)  
5           of the burden.

6           (6) The United Nations has urged countries to  
7           adopt national action plans to combat gender-based  
8           violence and violence against women, including do-  
9           mestic violence, and approximately 50 countries, in-  
10          cluding Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia,  
11          Germany, Spain, and Ireland, have adopted such  
12          plans.

13          (7) The United States does not have a national  
14          plan of action on domestic violence or gender-based  
15          violence, making it a global outlier.

16          (8) While the Violence Against Women Act  
17          (VAWA) enacted in 1984 and the Family Violence  
18          Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) enacted in  
19          1995 are the United States landmark pieces of do-  
20          mestic violence legislation and have many of the  
21          hallmarks of a national action plan on domestic vio-  
22          lence prevention, from the public health and the en-  
23          forcement perspectives, respectively, the United  
24          States does not have a whole-of-government, goal-  
25          oriented, community-informed, forward looking na-

1 tional plan of action for domestic violence preven-  
2 tion.

3 (9) In 1995, the Office on Violence Against  
4 Women (OVW) was created within the Department  
5 of Justice (DOJ) to administer grants authorized  
6 under VAWA and offer financial and technical as-  
7 sistance to communities across the United States  
8 that are working to develop and maintain programs,  
9 policies, and practices geared towards responding to  
10 domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault,  
11 and stalking.

12 (10) In 2002, OVW was codified through Title  
13 IV of the 21st Century Department of Justice Ap-  
14 propriations Act (Public Law 107-273).

15 (11) The FVPSA is the primary Federal re-  
16 source dedicated to the provision of domestic vio-  
17 lence shelters, supportive services, and related pro-  
18 gramming for victims of domestic/dating violence  
19 and their dependents.

20 (12) The FVPSA Program administers State  
21 and Territorial Formula Grants, Native American  
22 Tribes Formula Grants, State and Territory Domes-  
23 tic Violence Coalitions Grants, Discretionary Grants,  
24 Specialized Services to Abused Parents and their  
25 Children, Training and Technical Assistance Re-

1 source Centers Grants, and the National Domestic  
2 Violence Hotline Grant. The FVPSA authorizes 4  
3 major activities that:

4 (A) Assist States and Tribes in efforts to  
5 prevent domestic violence and dating violence.

6 (B) Provide immediate shelter and sup-  
7 portive services for victims of domestic violence  
8 and their dependents.

9 (C) Provide for a National Domestic Vio-  
10 lence Hotline.

11 (D) Provide for technical assistance and  
12 training relating to domestic violence and do-  
13 mestic violence programs to States, Tribes, pub-  
14 lic agencies, community-based programs and  
15 the public.

16 (13) Since 1996, the Centers for Disease Con-  
17 trol and Prevention (CDC) has awarded DELTA  
18 funding to State Domestic Violence Coalitions  
19 (SDVCs) to coordinate specific prevention activities.

20 (14) Overall approximately 18 states have re-  
21 ceived DELTA funding at some point since the pro-  
22 grams creation. However, only nine states currently  
23 benefit from this funding.

24 (15) According to the CDC, DELTA focuses on  
25 implementing three strategies with the goal of ad-

1        dressing and decreasing community and societal  
2        level risk, identifying factors in communities that  
3        may lead to intimate partner violence and increasing  
4        protective factors that prevent it by—

5                (A) engaging influential adults and peers;

6                (B) creating protective environments; and

7                (C) strengthening economic supports for  
8        families.

9                (16) In 1993, the FVPSA established 4 na-  
10        tional training and technical assistance resource cen-  
11        ters to support, train, and assist domestic violence  
12        shelters, community-based organizations, victim ad-  
13        vocates, and other professionals in the provision of  
14        safe housing and supportive services to domestic vio-  
15        lence survivors and their dependents. These resource  
16        centers include the National Resource Center on Do-  
17        mestic Violence (NRCDV), the Health Resource  
18        Center on Domestic Violence, the Resource Center  
19        on Domestic Violence: Child Protection and Custody,  
20        and the Battered Women’s Justice Project (BWJP).  
21        In later years, additional resource centers were es-  
22        tablished to focus on culturally specific populations,  
23        Tribes and sovereign nations, American Indian/Alas-  
24        ka Natives, children exposed to domestic violence,  
25        mental and behavioral health services, housing,

1       LGBTQ services, and other critical service intersec-  
2       tions to meet the needs of survivors. With respect to  
3       these resource centers:

4               (A) The purpose of these resource centers,  
5               known collectively as the Domestic Violence Re-  
6               source Network (DVRN), is to engage in indi-  
7               vidual and collective strategic action to advance  
8               public policy, institutional change, community  
9               responses, and prevention initiatives that inte-  
10              grate and respond to the diverse realities and  
11              needs of survivors, their families and their com-  
12              munities.

13             (B) The individual advocacy efforts of  
14             DVRN members are informed by the wide  
15             range of expertise within the network and  
16             strengthened by opportunities for critical think-  
17             ing and robust discussion of cross-cutting policy  
18             and practice issues.

19             (C) In 2021, the FVPSA provides funding  
20             for two national resource centers, four special  
21             issue resource centers, three culturally-specific  
22             resource centers, five emerging issue resource  
23             centers, one statewide Alaska Native resource  
24             center, and the National Domestic Violence  
25             Hotline and StrongHearts Native Helpline.

1 (D) The National Indian Women's Re-  
2 source Center (NIWRC) is dedicated to restor-  
3 ing sovereignty to Native nations and safe-  
4 guarding Native survivors and families from do-  
5 mestic, sexual, and intersecting violence.

6 (E) The NRC DV believes that domestic vi-  
7 olence is preventable. NRC DV builds the capaci-  
8 ty of individuals, organizations, systems and  
9 communities to strengthen and transform their  
10 efforts to end domestic violence through com-  
11 prehensive technical assistance, training, re-  
12 source development, and research.

13 (F) The Special Issue Resource Centers  
14 are national in scope and enhance domestic vio-  
15 lence and dating violence intervention and pre-  
16 vention efforts in:

- 17 (i) Criminal and civil justice systems.  
18 (ii) Child protective services and child  
19 custody.  
20 (iii) Health care systems.  
21 (iv) Mental health systems.

22 (G) The Culturally Specific Special Issue  
23 Resource Centers enhance intervention and pre-  
24 vention efforts for victims of domestic violence  
25 for members of racial and ethnic minority



1 groups, including: African American, Asian  
2 American/Pacific Islander, and Latino/Latina.

3 (H) FVPSA's emerging issue resource cen-  
4 ters expand the capacity of domestic violence  
5 organizations, Tribes and Tribal organizations,  
6 and other professionals to provide evidence in-  
7 formed promising practices, policy changes, re-  
8 sources, and research to ensure effective serv-  
9 ices to victims of domestic violence and their  
10 dependents at the intersections of housing, gen-  
11 der identity and sexual orientation, organiza-  
12 tional capacity building, and children's exposure  
13 to trauma.

14 (I) The statewide Alaska Native Women's  
15 Resource Center strengthens local Tribal gov-  
16 ernments' responses through community orga-  
17 nizing efforts to advocate for the safety of  
18 women and children in their communities and  
19 homes through the voices, languages, and  
20 teachings of Tribes at statewide, national and  
21 international levels for life-saving changes need-  
22 ed in laws, policies, and social norms.

23 (J) The national hotlines are vital services  
24 designed to provide healthy relationship edu-  
25 cation, tools, and support to help survivors of

1 domestic violence live their lives free of abuse—  
2 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days  
3 a year, including a helpline for American Indi-  
4 ans and Alaska Natives, offering culturally-ap-  
5 propriate support and advocacy.

6 (17) Many Federal agencies respond to domes-  
7 tic violence by providing formula-based and discre-  
8 tionary grants to local, State, and Tribal govern-  
9 ments, courts, nonprofits organizations, community-  
10 based organizations, schools, institutions of higher  
11 education, special-issue resource centers and State  
12 and Tribal coalitions for the purpose of supporting  
13 victims and holding perpetrators accountable for  
14 their actions associated with domestic violence.  
15 These Federal agencies include the following:

16 (A) The Department of Defense admin-  
17 isters the congressionally-mandated Family Ad-  
18 vocacy Program (FAP) which is devoted to pro-  
19 viding clinical assessment, supportive services,  
20 and treatment in response to domestic violence,  
21 as well as, reporting domestic abuse in military  
22 families annually to Congress.

23 (B) The Department of State supports nu-  
24 merous programs that address domestic vio-  
25 lence globally through its human rights and hu-

1           manitarian activities, including those housed in  
2           the Office of Global Women’s Issues that sup-  
3           ports anti-gender-based violence (GBV) pro-  
4           grams and promotes awareness.

5           (C) Through their agency-wide efforts to  
6           address gender inequality and gender based vio-  
7           lence, the U.S. Agency for International Devel-  
8           opment (USAID) supports programs that aim  
9           to prevent and respond to domestic violence  
10          globally through its work in development, global  
11          health, and humanitarian assistance.

12          (D) The Indian Country Crimes Unit  
13          (ICCU) at the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
14          (FBI) is responsible for developing and imple-  
15          menting strategies, programs, and policies to  
16          address identified crimes problems in Indian  
17          country, including but not limited to, initiatives  
18          related to domestic violence and sex offenses,  
19          program management, and support for the Safe  
20          Trails Task Force.

21          (E) The Office of Justice Services at the  
22          Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA-OJS), the Fed-  
23          eral Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Tribal  
24          governments share jurisdiction in handling

1 crimes, including domestic violence, on Tribal  
2 lands.

3 (F) The FBI collects data on victim-of-  
4 fender relationships, including through the Na-  
5 tional-Incident Based Reporting System.

6 (G) The Department of Education admin-  
7 isters the Student Support and Academic En-  
8 richment Grant program, authorized under  
9 Title IV-A of the Elementary and Secondary  
10 Education Act, which provides formula grants  
11 to state educational agencies and local edu-  
12 cational agencies that may be used to support  
13 violence prevention programs and activities.

14 (H) The Higher Education Act (HEA) re-  
15 quires institutions of higher education (IHE) to  
16 include in their annual security report (ASR) a  
17 statement of policy regarding the IHE's pro-  
18 grams to prevent domestic violence, dating vio-  
19 lence, and other related crimes, and procedures  
20 that the IHE will follow once an incident of do-  
21 mestic or dating violence has been reported.

22 (I) The Department of Housing and Urban  
23 Development (HUD), in conjunction with the  
24 Department of Health and Human Services  
25 (HHS) and the Department of Justice (DOJ),

1 funds housing programs for individuals and  
2 families who are fleeing or attempting to flee  
3 their home due to domestic violence, sexual as-  
4 sault, or stalking, as well as, oversees the Do-  
5 mestic Violence Housing Technical Assistance  
6 Consortium through the Safe Housing Partner-  
7 ship that provides technical assistance to com-  
8 munity providers on housing and domestic vio-  
9 lence.

10 (J) U.S. Citizenship and Immigration  
11 Services (USCIS) at the Department of Home-  
12 land Security (DHS) accepts applications and  
13 assist survivors of domestic violence in becom-  
14 ing lawful permanent residents through VAWA  
15 self-petitions.

16 (18) Survivors of domestic violence are affected  
17 by the programs of all Federal agencies, even if  
18 those agencies have not currently put into place spe-  
19 cific programs to support survivors.

20 (19) Responses to domestic violence have fo-  
21 cused, to date, primarily on intervention after the  
22 problem has already been identified and harm has  
23 occurred. However, there are prevention strategies  
24 and prevention approaches from the public health  
25 field that can serve as models for further develop-

1       ment of domestic violence prevention, such as a pub-  
2       lic health campaign that identifies and addresses the  
3       underlying causes of the issues.

4               (20) Domestic violence prevention should be ad-  
5       dressed along a continuum of possible harm:

6                   (A) Primary prevention to reduce the inci-  
7       dence of domestic violence before it occurs.

8                   (B) Secondary prevention to decrease the  
9       prevalence of domestic violence after early signs  
10      of such violence.

11                  (C) Tertiary prevention to intervene once  
12      domestic violence is already clearly evident and  
13      causing harm.

14               (21) Early evaluations of existing prevention  
15      programs show promise, but results are still prelimi-  
16      nary and programs remain small, locally based, and  
17      scattered throughout the United States.

18               (22) The United States needs a broadly based,  
19      comprehensive prevention strategy that is supported  
20      by sound research and evaluation, receives adequate  
21      public backing, and is based on a policy of zero tol-  
22      erance for domestic violence.

1 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AC-**  
2 **TION PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after  
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
5 Health and Human Services shall establish a national do-  
6 mestic violence prevention action plan steering committee  
7 (referred to in this Act as the “Steering Committee”).

8 (b) DUTIES.—The Steering Committee shall—

9 (1) create the “National Domestic Violence  
10 Prevention Action Plan” (referred to in this Act as  
11 the “Action Plan”) to expand, intensify, and coordi-  
12 nate domestic violence prevention efforts among  
13 Federal, State, local, and Tribal government agen-  
14 cies and with other relevant stakeholders to ensure  
15 a whole-of-government, goal-oriented, community-in-  
16 formed, forward looking approach in addressing do-  
17 mestic violence prevention pursuant to section 4;

18 (2) develop methods and recommendations of  
19 programs needed to effectively implement the Action  
20 Plan;

21 (3) establish goals for implementation of the  
22 Action Plan and evaluation methods for ensuring  
23 that such goals are met;

24 (4) identify resources needed from Congress  
25 necessary to implement the Action Plan;

1 (5) coordinate stakeholders pursuant to sub-  
2 section (d);

3 (6) as necessary, develop a program of activities  
4 pursuant to section 4(c)); and

5 (7) develop a national media campaign pursu-  
6 ant to section 4(d), to be included in the Action  
7 Plan, to promote a whole-of-government, goal-ori-  
8 ented, community-informed, forward looking ap-  
9 proach toward domestic violence prevention in the  
10 United States.

11 (c) CHAIR; COMPOSITION.—

12 (1) CHAIR.—The Steering Committee shall be  
13 chaired by the Secretary of Health and Human  
14 Services. The Chair of the Steering Committee—

15 (A) shall convene and preside over any  
16 meeting of the Steering Committee;

17 (B) shall set the meeting agenda for the  
18 Steering Committee;

19 (C) shall coordinate the Steering Commit-  
20 tee's work;

21 (D) may appoint subject matter experts,  
22 including experts from nongovernmental organi-  
23 zations, as determined necessary to carry out  
24 the duties of the Steering Committee; and



1 (E) may as appropriate to deal with par-  
2 ticular subject matters, establish subcommittees  
3 of the Steering Committee.

4 (2) COMPOSITION.—The Steering Committee  
5 shall be composed of the following individuals or a  
6 designee made by such individual:

7 (A) The Attorney General.

8 (B) The Assistant Secretary for Planning  
9 and Evaluation at the Department of Health  
10 and Human Services.

11 (C) The Director of the Office on Women’s  
12 Health at the Department of Health and  
13 Human Services.

14 (D) The Administrator of the Office on Vi-  
15 olence Against Women at the Department of  
16 Justice.

17 (E) The Administrator of the Division of  
18 Violence Prevention at the Center for Disease  
19 Control and Prevention.

20 (F) The Administrator of the Division of  
21 Injury Prevention at the Center for Disease  
22 Control and Prevention.

23 (G) The Administrator of the Office of Ju-  
24 venile Justice and Delinquency Prevention at  
25 the Department of Justice.

1 (H) The Administrator of the Office of  
2 Victim of Crimes at the Department of Justice.

3 (I) The Secretary of Education at the De-  
4 partment of Education.

5 (J) The Deputy Bureau Director for Jus-  
6 tice Service at the Bureau of Indian Affairs  
7 within the Department of Interior.

8 (K) Any other subject matter experts, in-  
9 cluding experts from nongovernmental organiza-  
10 tions, the Chair determines necessary to carry  
11 out the duties of the Steering Committee.

12 (d) COORDINATION OF STAKEHOLDERS.—In creating  
13 the Action Plan, the Steering Committee shall identify and  
14 collaborate with government and non-government stake-  
15 holders to create the Action Plan. Stakeholders shall in-  
16 clude those who may be affected by the Action Plan, in-  
17 cluding Federal, State, local, Tribal government officials,  
18 public health agencies, health care providers, early child-  
19 hood and child care providers, domestic violence advocacy  
20 groups, faith-based organizations, educational agencies,  
21 military branches, community-based and culturally specific  
22 child, and family serving organizations.

23 (e) EXISTING AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBIL-  
24 ITIES.—The duties of the Steering Committee shall not  
25 be construed to diminish, supersede, or replace any other

1 the responsibility, authority, or role of any member of the  
2 Steering Committee.

3 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AC-**  
4 **TION PLAN.**

5 (a) CREATION OF ACTION PLAN.—The Steering  
6 Committee shall create the Action Plan, setting forth a  
7 comprehensive plan to expand, intensify, and coordinate  
8 domestic violence prevention efforts among Federal, State,  
9 local, and Tribal government agencies and with other rel-  
10 evant stakeholders to ensure a whole-of-government, goal-  
11 oriented, community-informed, forward looking approach  
12 in addressing domestic violence prevention in the United  
13 States.

14 (b) CONTENT OF ACTION PLAN.— The Action Plan  
15 shall include:

16 (1) A mission statement detailing the desired  
17 outcome and goals of major objectives of the Action  
18 Plan.

19 (2) A list of objectives to:

20 (A) Expand, intensify, coordinate domestic  
21 violence prevention efforts among Federal,  
22 State, local, and Tribal government agencies  
23 and with other relevant stakeholders to ensure  
24 a whole-of-government, goal-oriented, commu-  
25 nity-informed, forward looking approach in ad-

1           dressing domestic violence prevention in the  
2           United States.

3           (B) Intensify domestic violence prevention  
4           efforts by addressing the continuum of possible  
5           harm, including encouraging recognition of the  
6           following:

7                   (I) Primary prevention to reduce the  
8                   incidence of domestic violence before it oc-  
9                   curs.

10                   (ii) Secondary prevention to decrease  
11                   the prevalence of domestic violence after  
12                   early signs of such violence.

13                   (iii) Tertiary prevention to intervene  
14                   once domestic violence is already clearly  
15                   evident and causing harm.

16           (C) Encourage the implementation of exist-  
17           ing domestic violence prevention efforts  
18           throughout Federal, State, local, and Tribal  
19           government agencies, as well as, public health  
20           agencies, health care providers, early childhood  
21           and child care providers, domestic violence ad-  
22           vocacy groups, faith-based organizations, edu-  
23           cational agencies, military branches, and com-  
24           munity-based and culturally specific child and  
25           family serving organizations.

1 (D) Improve the methods of evaluation for  
2 domestic violence prevention through targeted  
3 data collection and analysis of such data.

4 (E) Increase research opportunities to en-  
5 hance the effectiveness and long-term benefits  
6 of domestic violence prevention programs and  
7 efforts.

8 (F) Enhance public awareness of domestic  
9 violence prevention programs by establishing a  
10 national media awareness campaign focused pri-  
11 marily on education and prevention.

12 (3) A description of the current prevalence and  
13 severity of any and all forms of domestic violence in  
14 the United States.

15 (4) A description of the current prevalence of  
16 domestic violence prevention programs in the United  
17 States.

18 (5) A description of other statistical data and  
19 information as the Steering Committee considers ap-  
20 propriate to demonstrate and assess trends relating  
21 to any and all forms of domestic violence and domes-  
22 tic violence prevention, and the implementation of  
23 the Action Plan.

24 (6) Comprehensive, research-based, long-term,  
25 quantifiable goals for expanding, intensifying, and

1 coordinating domestic violence prevention efforts  
2 among Federal, State, local, and Tribal government  
3 agencies and with other relevant stakeholders to en-  
4 sure a whole-of-government, goal-oriented, commu-  
5 nity-informed, forward looking approach in address-  
6 ing domestic violence prevention in the United  
7 States.

8 (7) Five-year projections and recommendations  
9 for Federal funding needed to achieve the objectives  
10 of the Action Plan.

11 (8) Clear descriptions of the role of the Steer-  
12 ing Committee and the role of each member of the  
13 Steering Committee in facilitating the development  
14 and fulfilling the objectives of the Action Plan.

15 (9) A review of international, Federal, State,  
16 local, Tribal, and private sector domestic violence  
17 prevention programs and activities to ensure that  
18 the United States pursues coordinated and effective  
19 domestic violence prevention programs and activities  
20 at all levels of government.

21 (10) A description of how each objective under  
22 paragraph (2) was determined, including the fol-  
23 lowing:

24 (A) A description of each required con-  
25 sultation pursuant to Section 3(d) and a de-

1 description of how such consultation was incor-  
2 porated.

3 (B) Provision of data, research, or other  
4 information used to inform the determination to  
5 establish each goal.

6 (11) A description of how each objective under  
7 paragraph (2) will be achieved, including for each  
8 goal the following:

9 (A) A list of relevant professional groups,  
10 such as public health leaders, health care pro-  
11 viders, early childhood and child care providers,  
12 domestic violence service providers and preven-  
13 tion specialists, faith-based leaders, educators,  
14 leaders of the Armed Forces, and community-  
15 based and culturally specific child and family  
16 serving organizations, and related programs, ac-  
17 tivities, that each group operates.

18 (B) A list of relevant Federal, State, local,  
19 and Tribal programs and activities with respect  
20 to domestic violence prevention.

21 (C) A list of the role that programs and  
22 activities identified in subparagraphs (A) and  
23 (B) have in meeting the objectives under para-  
24 graph (2).

1 (D) An estimate of Federal funding and  
2 other resources needed to achieve each objec-  
3 tive.

4 (E) A list of each existing or needed co-  
5 ordination between government and nongovern-  
6 ment stakeholders for each objective.

7 (F) A description of the Steering Commit-  
8 tee's role in facilitating the achievement of each  
9 objective.

10 (12) A list identifying existing data sources,  
11 and a description of data collection needed to evalu-  
12 ate the effectiveness of domestic violence prevention  
13 efforts, including a description of how the Steering  
14 Committee will obtain such data.

15 (13) A list of any anticipated challenges to  
16 achieving the goals of the Action Plan and planned  
17 actions to address such challenges.

18 (14) Identification of methods to implement the  
19 Action Plan.

20 (15) Recommendations on research, programs,  
21 activities, and resources necessary to achieve the  
22 goals of the Action Plan.

23 (c) PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES.—As necessary, the  
24 Steering Committee may include in the Action Plan a co-  
25 herent, comprehensive, and sustained program of activities



1 that includes actions to expand, intensify, and coordinate  
2 domestic violence prevention efforts among Federal, State,  
3 local, and Tribal government agencies and all States and  
4 Tribal communities to ensure a whole-of-government, goal-  
5 oriented, community-informed, forward looking approach  
6 in addressing domestic violence prevention in the United  
7 States. Such programs may—

8 (1) embrace a human rights-based approach  
9 that acknowledges that domestic violence is a viola-  
10 tion of human rights and accounts for the disparate  
11 impact of domestic violence on marginalized commu-  
12 nities;

13 (2) address prevention of any and all forms of  
14 domestic violence, including all violence that happens  
15 across the life course, including violence in public  
16 and private spheres, violence in the workplace, in-  
17 cluding within the Armed Forces of the United  
18 States, and violence in other contexts;

19 (3) address the root causes, prevalence, and im-  
20 pact of any and all forms of domestic violence, in-  
21 cluding social and cultural norms and other associ-  
22 ated factors;

23 (4) tailor strategies to address factors, includ-  
24 ing but not limited to, race, color, religion, national  
25 or social origin, marital status, housing status, sex-

1 ual orientation, HIV/AIDS status, migrant or ref-  
2 ugee status, age, disability, or any other relevant  
3 characteristics and any of these in combination that  
4 contribute to higher rates of any and all forms of  
5 domestic violence;

6 (5) identify gaps in any and all existing domes-  
7 tic violence prevention programs with the goal of ad-  
8 dressing the gaps in future work;

9 (6) support government and non-government  
10 organizations and community networks to drive ac-  
11 tivity at the state and local level and ensure coordi-  
12 nated action across all states and localities;

13 (7) support independent research on emerging  
14 issues that impact any and all forms of domestic vio-  
15 lence;

16 (8) collect, analyze, and communicate com-  
17 prehensive qualitative and quantitative data,  
18 disaggregated by sex, race, age, ethnicity, and other  
19 relevant characteristics, on the nature, prevalence,  
20 and impact of any and all forms of domestic vio-  
21 lence;

22 (9) increase the number and quality of profes-  
23 sional relationships involved in the prevention of any  
24 and all forms of domestic violence; and

1           (10) support broader efforts to ensure gender  
2 equality and engage people of all genders and  
3 sexualities in combating any and all forms of domes-  
4 tic violence.

5           (d) MEDIA CAMPAIGN.—

6           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Steering Committee  
7 shall include in the action plan a media campaign to  
8 facilitate and direct an ongoing, and meaningful en-  
9 gagement with the public with respect to domestic  
10 violence prevention.

11           (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the media cam-  
12 paign shall be to:

13                   (A) Educate the public on prevention of  
14 any and all forms of domestic violence.

15                   (B) Engage with the public on bystander  
16 empowerment and education.

17                   (C) Teach safe and healthy relationship  
18 skills through social-emotional learning.

19                   (D) Create protective environments  
20 through improved school climate, workplace cli-  
21 mate, community climate, as well as, Federal,  
22 State, local, and Tribal policies.

23                   (E) Disrupt the developmental pathways  
24 towards domestic violence through parenting  
25 and family relationship programs, treatment for

1 at-risk children, faith-based programs, and  
2 other culturally specific programming.

3 (F) Combat the stigmas associated with  
4 any and all forms of domestic violence.

5 (3) CONTENT OF MEDIA CAMPAIGN.—The  
6 media campaign shall include:

7 (A) The development of national, local, re-  
8 gional, or population specific messaging, includ-  
9 ing messaging specific to professional groups,  
10 such as public health leaders, health care pro-  
11 viders, early childhood and child care providers,  
12 domestic violence providers, faith-based leaders,  
13 educators, military leaders, and community-  
14 based and culturally specific child and family  
15 serving organizations.

16 (B) The development of social media cam-  
17 paigns to reach targeted populations.

18 (C) The development of a website to pub-  
19 licize and disseminate information.

20 (D) The development of informational and  
21 educational pamphlets and brochures.

22 (E) The development of webinars to edu-  
23 cate and provide support.

24 (e) REPORTING.—Not later than the first Monday in  
25 October two years after the date of enactment, and bian-

1 nually thereafter, the Steering Committee shall submit to  
2 Congress in written form the Action Plan and as applica-  
3 ble any updates of the implementation of the Action Plan.

4 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5 There is authorized to be appropriated \$25 million  
6 for each of the fiscal years 2021 through 2025 to the De-  
7 partment of Health and Human Services, of which—

8 (1) \$20 million, each fiscal year, to carry out  
9 this Act; and

10 (2) \$5 million, each fiscal year, for administra-  
11 tive services, facilities, staff, and other support serv-  
12 ices necessary to complete the duties of the Steering  
13 Committee.

14 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

15 In this Act:

16 (1) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—The term “domestic  
17 violence” includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of  
18 violence committed by a current or former spouse or  
19 intimate partner of the victim, by a person with  
20 whom the victim shares a child in common, by a per-  
21 son who is cohabitation with or has cohabitated with  
22 the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a per-  
23 son similarly situated to a spouse of the victim  
24 under the domestic or family violence laws of the ju-  
25 risdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other

1 person against an adult or youth victim who is pro-  
2 tected from that person's acts under the domestic or  
3 family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

4 (2) STATE.—The term “State” means each of  
5 the several States and the District of Columbia, and  
6 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American  
7 Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mar-  
8 iana Islands.