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*THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
ACT OF 1999*

by Margaret M. Murphy

Representatives John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI), Constance A. Morella (R-MD), and Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA), with more than 100 co-sponsors, introduced the Violence Against Women Act of 1999. This bill is designed to strengthen the legislative commitment of the original Violence Against Women Act of 1994. The proposed legislation works to improve the lives of women and children across America.

The Violence Against Women Act of 1999 is a broad bill that acts to protect victims of violent acts. Some of the bill's provisions include increased funding for battered women and shelters and traditional housing services for

domestic violence victims. It addresses funding of rape prevention and education programs and attempts to limit the effects of violence on children.

The bill would create safe havens and implement school policies and programs addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. It increases federal and state judicial training and hopes to further implement pro-arrest policies.

The Act would reauthorize funding for the improvement of crime databases for tracking stalking and domestic violence. It would provide funding to schools and create training programs that teach those who work with domestic violence to better identify and treat the victim. The bill also encompasses unemployment benefits to victims.

