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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2902

August 14, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner  
Office of the Speaker  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eric Cantor  
Office of the Majority Leader  
H-329, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Majority Leader Cantor:

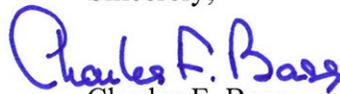
I write to urge action on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) as soon as Congress returns in September. VAWA is instrumental in enabling law enforcement, medical professionals, and service providers to assist the victims of abuse and to hold their perpetrators accountable and it is imperative that the House and Senate resolve their differences and ensure there is bipartisan and bicameral agreement once again on this issue.

Having worked closely with groups like the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and the Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention in Keene, I have learned firsthand the significance of VAWA to the communities of the Granite State. Thousands of New Hampshire women depend on VAWA to keep their schools, homes, and workplaces safe. It is through VAWA programs that victims of abuse gain the support and assistance necessary to move forward with their lives.

While I was unable to support the original House bill due to my concerns that it did not go far enough in assisting all victims of violence, I still believe the House and Senate can come together and find a resolution, and reach a common-sense compromise that both chambers can support. Reauthorizing this important legislation should not and cannot be a partisan issue.

Thank you for your leadership and please let me know if I can be of assistance in this effort. I look forward to working with you to bring a bipartisan bill which upholds the continued successes of VAWA to the House floor as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Charles F. Bass  
Member of Congress

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