

**RESOLUTION TITLE: *Working and collaborating to improve and strengthen Domestic Violence and Abuse laws, policies, and available services in New Mexico for the public good***

Author/Submitting Organization	Joni and Lawrence Jones
Email	lrjonesconsulting@gmail.com
City	Albuquerque
County	Bernalillo
Date Submitted	10-07-2022

**Whereas**, October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and

**Whereas**, the Democratic Party of New Mexico has an ongoing interest in supporting and developing new laws, programs, and policies that are designed to

- (a) reduce domestic violence and abuse, and
- (b) protect and assist people impacted by domestic violence and abuse, and

**Whereas**, President Biden has signed **the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, or VAWA (2022)**, with an effective date of October 1, 2022 [A], and whereas VAWA reflects a public policy of expanding awareness of domestic violence and expanding services, including but not limited to the following actions:

- developing policies to increase focus on improving the criminal justice response to domestic violence [B], [C]
- establishing a pilot program for restorative practices [D]
- providing assistance to people who come from historically underserved communities, and

**Whereas**, the DPNM is especially committed to improving the lives of all people impacted by domestic violence and abuse, including but not limited to historically underserved people, such as:

- people with disabilities [E]
- people from senior and elderly communities [F]
- people from LGBTQ+ communities [G]
- people from tribal communities [H], [I], [J]
- people from rural / economically disadvantaged communities [K], [L]
- teenagers and adolescents [M],
- children [N], and
- people from other culturally specific communities [O]

among others, and

**Whereas**, there is social value in

- (a) building a goal-oriented collaboration between individuals who are concerned about domestic violence and abuse in New Mexico and local non-profit organizations that deal regularly with issues of domestic violence and abuse, and
- (b) initiating an exploration of ways to strengthen New Mexico's domestic violence laws and policies, and to expand services for people impacted by domestic violence and abuse,

**Therefore, be it resolved** that the Democratic Party of New Mexico (DPNM) authorizes the State Chair to appoint a committee of the DPNM to explore methods and options for improving and strengthening the laws, policies, and available services regarding domestic violence and abuse in New Mexico.

**And therefore, be it further resolved** that, in order to improve outcomes for people impacted by domestic violence and abuse, the goals of this committee shall be to accomplish the following:

- conduct exploratory, informative, and educational meetings with representatives from various non-profit New Mexico organizations experienced in the field of domestic violence and abuse,
- identify issues, challenges, and shortfalls in the laws, policies, and available services related to domestic violence and abuse,
- explore and consider methods and options by which New Mexicans can work within the framework of this committee to improve and strengthen the laws, policies, and available services for people impacted by domestic violence and abuse,
- recommend and advocate for legislative and regulatory changes to improve and strengthen New Mexico's laws and policies addressing domestic violence and abuse,
- recommend and advocate for concrete actions to strengthen, enhance, and expand available services for people impacted by domestic violence and abuse.

## Citations

- [A] [Violence Against Women Act \(2022\). Summary](#) (aka **VAWA 2022 Summary**)  
[ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jkq8D5t8yIxwTL4iGX6KzUzhc3onakcA/view> ]
- [B] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title I:  
Enhancing Legal Tools to Combat Domestic Violence (etc.) – Sec. 102
- [C] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title II:  
Improving Services for Victims – Sec. 205
- [D] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title I:  
Enhancing Legal Tools to Combat Domestic Violence (etc.) – Sec. 109
- [E] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title II:  
Improving Services for Victims – Sec. 203
- [F] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title II:  
Improving Services for Victims – Sec. 204
- [G] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title II:  
Improving Services for Victims – Sec. 206
- [H] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title I:  
Enhancing Legal Tools to Combat Domestic Violence (etc.) – Sec. 108
- [I] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title VIII:  
Safety for Indian Women – Sec. 802
- [J] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title VIII:  
Safety for Indian Women – Sec. 804
- [K] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title I:  
Enhancing Legal Tools to Combat Domestic Violence (etc.) – Sec. 105
- [L] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title II:  
Improving Services for Victims – Sec. 202
- [M] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title XIII:  
Other Matters – Sec. 1315
- [N] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title III:  
Services, Protection and Justice for Young Victims – Sec. 302
- [O] VAWA 2022 Summary, Title I:  
Enhancing Legal Tools to Combat Domestic Violence (etc.) – Sec. 108