A RESOLUTION

Urging the Congress of the United States to include additional funding for victims of domestic violence in the next COVID-19 related stimulus package.

WHEREAS, As of April 7, 2020, 306.3 million Americans, or 94.5% of the population of the United States, have been affected by some form of stay-at-home order to help decrease the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, The various forms of stay-at-home orders include approximately 54 million K-12 students who are no longer able to attend school in person and millions of adults who are unable to work; and

WHEREAS, While these measures are necessary to reduce the impacts of the current pandemic, it has provided domestic abusers additional opportunities to further isolate victims and withhold financial resources or medical aid; and

WHEREAS, The National Domestic Violence Hotline has reported
an increase in the demand for victim service providers; and
WHEREAS, Rural areas around the United States and American Indian and Alaskan Native communities are experiencing the same uptick in individuals seeking shelter from domestic violence and have further limited resources to address the issue; and
WHEREAS, In response, a bipartisan group of 33 United States Senators have come together to call for additional spending on domestic violence-related programs in the next COVID-19 stimulus package; and
WHEREAS, Additional funding is vital to the successful operation of programs funded by the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act; and
WHEREAS, The protection of victims of domestic violence should be a priority during the current pandemic; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the Congress of the United States to ensure additional spending to support victims of domestic violence are made a priority in the next COVID-19 relief bill; and be it further
RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each chamber of Congress and each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.