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STATEMENT ON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSING THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

The Tahirih Justice Center celebrates today's House passage of HR 1585, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The bill includes modest improvements to the law, which has served since its original passing in 1994 as a foundation for our nation's response to sexual assault, domestic abuse, and other forms of gender-based violence. The bipartisan HR 1585 was drafted over many months of hard work by dedicated Congressional staff and nongovernmental organization representatives alike.

"VAWA is quite literally a lifeline for victims of violence," said Archi Pyati, Tahirih's Chief of Policy. "No person should have to face life-threatening violence without assurance that police, judges, shelters, and lawyers will be there to help. This includes immigrant women among others who face particular challenges to finding safety. The House vote today reaffirms our nation's commitment to ending the epidemic of violence in our country."

With a bipartisan vote of 262 in favor and 158 against, the House has succeeded in demonstrating its stance against violence. Tahirih will continue to advocate on behalf of immigrant survivors of violence, among others, who rely on VAWA's programs to break free from violence and secure a brighter future for themselves and their children.

The Tahirih Justice Center has additional resources on VAWA, including:

- A [fact sheet](#) which contains information about the protections and services VAWA provides to survivors of violence
- A [compilation of stories](#) from clients of Tahirih who have received legal protection through VAWA

Archi Pyati is available for comment on this topic. Please contact dhajjar@mrss.com to arrange an interview.

About the Tahirih Justice Center

The Tahirih Justice Center is the largest national direct service and policy advocacy organization focused on assisting immigrant women and girls fleeing violence. Tahirih will continue to monitor policy shifts that impact women and girls fleeing violence and advocate for the United States to honor its legal obligations to protect those fleeing human rights abuses.

*Tahirih Justice Center is a national non-profit that protects courageous immigrant women and girls who refuse to be victims of violence through free legal and social services, public policy advocacy, and training and education.
Visit www.tahirih.org for more information.*