



National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators

Action Alert: Contact your Senators on April 21 and tell them to sponsor and pass the VOCA Fix!!!

Please forward widely!!!

On March 17, the House of Representatives passed the *VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021* (“the VOCA Fix Act”) with overwhelming bipartisan support. This critical legislation will prevent devastating cuts to federal funding for victim service programs through the Victims of Crime Act (“VOCA”). *However, we have yet to see movement on the Senate companion bill, S.611.*

The situation is dire! Federal **grants to victim services** through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) have been cut by two-thirds in the last four years. Congress can fix this by ensuring federal financial penalties from deferred prosecution and non-prosecution agreements are treated the same way as penalties resulting from criminal convictions - that they go to serve and compensate crime victims.

It is time for the **SENATE TO ACT!**

On **April 21st**, during Crime Victims Rights Week, *call or email* your Senators and urge them to sponsor and pass S.611, the bipartisan, bicameral *VOCA Fix Act*. If they are already sponsors, thank them and ask them to encourage their colleagues to sponsor S.611. A toolkit with information about how to find their contact information, sample telephone scripts, and sample email can be found [here](#). Check [here](#) to see if your Senators are already sponsors.

After you have contacted your Senators directly, join the Twitter storm at 2-3:00pm EST. Sample tweets can be found in the toolkit.

You can also submit an op-ed or a letter to the editor to your local newspaper to put very public pressure on those Senators who are not yet cosponsors of S.611. Templates can also be found in the toolkit.

During Crime Victims Rights Week, the Senate must take action to support victims of crime. **We need your help to get the VOCA Fix Act across the finish line!**

For more information, contact Daisy Pagan (daisy@navaa.org).