

**NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON ABUSED WOMEN'S SERVICES  
COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT IN NORTH DAKOTA**  
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## **NDCAWS applauds Congressmen Berg for voting NO on HR 4970**

BISMARCK – The North Dakota Council on Abused Women's Services and the Coalition Against Sexual Assault in North Dakota (NDCAWS/CASAND) applaud U.S. Representative Rick Berg for voting against HR 4970, the House version of the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization.

Rep. Berg met with directors of crisis intervention centers across North Dakota earlier this week to discuss victim services and the impact of the House version of the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization. Directors spoke of myriad challenges on tribal lands, in the oil patch, and areas hard-hit by last year's flooding.

"NDCAWS and our 21 crisis intervention centers are pleased Congressman Berg listened to his constituents and did what was right for North Dakota. He took the time to meet with us earlier this week, and up until the final vote, Congressman Berg was in constant contact with our office as well as Greg Diehl from the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center in Fargo," said Janelle Moos, Executive Director of NDCAWS. "HR 4970 wasn't right for North Dakota service providers or victims, and I appreciate Congressman Berg choosing the difficult alternative and recognizing the need to put good policy over Washington politics."

NDCAWS stands with the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) and the National Task Force to End Domestic Violence Against Women in thanking policymakers who listened to victim advocates and voted against HR 4970, the version of VAWA that doesn't do enough to protect ALL women and omits amendments that further help Native American women, immigrant women, and LGBTQ communities. The House version of VAWA has been publicly rejected by more than 325 diverse organizations and leaders representing millions across the nation.

### **ABOUT NDCAWS:**

*The North Dakota Council on Abused Women's Services/Coalition Against Sexual Assault is a membership organization representing the 21 domestic violence and sexual assault crisis centers throughout the state. It is the mission of NDCAWS/CASAND to provide leadership and support in the identification, intervention, and prevention of domestic and sexual violence. For more information, please visit [www.ndcaws.org](http://www.ndcaws.org).*