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March 16, 2022

## Illinois Legislators Champion VAWA Reauthorization

On March 16, 2022, President Biden hosted a ceremony at the White House on the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 2022, and Senator Dick Durbin among others delivered remarks on the Senate floor. Neha Gill, Apna Ghar's Executive Director said, "the goal of this bipartisan reauthorization is to strengthen the law to ensure that all survivors have access to safety and stability, and a path towards self-sufficiency, justice and healing."

[Apna Ghar, Inc.](#) thanks Illinois' Senators Durbin and Duckworth and the Representatives who led the effort to reauthorize VAWA to ensure that survivors in the state and around the country are better served.

On February 11, 2022 Senator Dick Durbin hosted a press conference at Apna Ghar with Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky to urge the US Senate to reauthorize VAWA, which was introduced to the Senate on Thursday, February 10, 2022 after years of negotiations. Amanda Pyron, Executive Director of [The Network: Advocating Against Domestic Violence](#) also spoke at the press conference and called for modernizing the law and closing loopholes. Federal law still does not prohibit abusive dating partners from having guns, but gun violence by dating partners has been increasing for the past three decades according to [Everytown For Gun Safety](#).



Left to Right: Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, Senator Dick Durbin, and Amanda Pyron at Apna Ghar, Inc. on February 11, 2022

The press conference was covered by Fox 32 Chicago <https://www.fox32chicago.com/news/durbin-celebrates-introduction-of-bipartisan-womens-protection-bill>

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