## Bloomberg Praises House Passage of Violence Against Women Act

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I applaud all those who voted in favor of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act today in the U.S. House of Representatives. Today's bipartisan passage demonstrates the support for the programs and services that grant lifesaving assistance to hundreds of thousands of victims of rape and domestic violence, largely under-reported crimes. For the first time ever, this legislation will ensure that these vital domestic violence services are available to immigrant and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people.

"I would especially like to thank all of the members of the New York delegation for their continued leadership and support on this vital issue. In New York City, the funding from this Act has been used to help establish innovative Family Justice Centers, which have reduced the barriers faced by victims of domestic violence who are seeking help by providing them one location where they can meet with trained counselors and prosecutors, and apply for housing and financial assistance. By making help more available, victims in New York City have been increasingly willing to come forward and break the cycle of violence. I look forward to seeing the President sign this legislation into law."

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