

Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016 (JFAA) – S. 2577 and H.R. 4602

Strengthens crime victims' rights

- Increases access to restitution for crime victims.
- Reauthorizes programs to notify victims of their rights and provide legal assistance.

Reduces the rape kit backlog

- Requires at least 75% of DNA Backlog Reduction grants are for direct testing of crime scene evidence, including rape kits.
- Supports state and local law enforcement auditing and reporting of backlogged rape kits.

Strengthens Post-Conviction DNA Testing

- Reauthorizes the Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing program, making it available to both state and local jurisdictions, and increases authorization from \$5 million to \$10 million.
- Clarifies the authority of federal courts to order post-conviction DNA testing.
- Requires the government to track relevant tests and prepare and share an inventory of evidence with the court and the applicant for post-conviction testing.
- Requires uploading of DNA profiles of excluded applicants into NDIS to help identify real perpetrators.
- Reduces the types of biological evidence that states and localities must preserve to include evidence from certain violent crimes only as opposed to biological evidence from all cases.

Strengthens the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program

- Incentivizes the hiring of full-time SANE nurses, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

Clarifies Violence Against Women Act Housing Protections

- Extends protection against automatic eviction to any “resident” in a public housing unit who is a victim and not a tenant listed on the lease in situations where the named resident is evicted.

Ensures Continuity of Victim Services Offered at National Level and to Americans Victimized Abroad

- Clarifies OVC discretionary dollars may support nonprofit entities that assist victims of crime on a nationwide basis and Americans abroad who are victims of crime committed outside the US.

Strengthens Support for Crime Labs

- Reauthorizes the Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Program, and increases the authorization from \$20M to \$25M for improving state and local crime lab policies and practices.
- Ensures eligible labs are, or will become, accredited.
- Increases the *de minimus* amount available to each state and increases the formula portion's share of total program funding (from 75% to 85%).
- Supports DNA and other forensic disciplines including latent print, digital and toxicology evidence.
- Requires a needs assessment of state and local labs to better target federal funding.

Requires Establishment of Best Practices in Evidence Retention

- Requires NIJ to adopt best practices for evidence retention and offer training to state, local and tribal governments.

Strengthens the Byrne JAG Program

- Reinstates a requirement for states to conduct strategic planning to guide use of the Byrne JAG funds.
- Requires DOJ to offer TA to states on planning and adoption of evidence-based practices.

Strengthens the Prison Rape Elimination Act

- Protects Violence Against Women Act funds from being subject to the PREA penalty.
- Allows states committing to future compliance the option of holding its current penalty funds in abeyance for three years.
- Sets a deadline of six years after enactment by which states must be in full compliance with PREA.
- Requires greater transparency from states on the status of PREA implementation.