

## The Senate Must Pass The Violence Against Women Act Now

Statement of Esta Soler President and Founder Futures Without Violence

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We thank Senator Dianne Feinstein for introducing the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization in the U.S. Senate. We applaud Senator Feinstein for her leadership in ending sexual assault and domestic violence, for helping victims heal and for listening with compassion to survivors and advocates in the process. The Senate bill introduced by Senator Feinstein today strengthens protections for survivors, including by closing the "boyfriend" loophole and keeping guns from convicted stalkers. VAWA has made a powerful difference in the lives of millions affected by violence, and we particularly appreciate Senator Feinstein's focus on prevention, funding more housing for survivors, and ensuring that more services are available for children LGTBQ, Native American and immigrant survivors. Futures Without Violence stands ready to work with Senator Feinstein to end violence against women, children and men, and looks forward to continuing to work in a bipartisan way to see the VAWA passed.