

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20515

May 21, 2007

**HELP ENSURE A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM'S SECURITY AND FINANCIAL  
EMPOWERMENT!**

**BECOME A COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2395—THE S.A.F.E. ACT!**

Dear Colleague:

Currently, battered women are not expressly allowed by federal law to take leave from work for the purpose of dealing with domestic violence, nor do they have the right to unemployment compensation if they lose their jobs due to circumstances resulting from abuse.

**H.R. 2395, The Security and Financial Empowerment (S.A.F.E.) Act**, promotes financial security for victims of abuse in several ways:

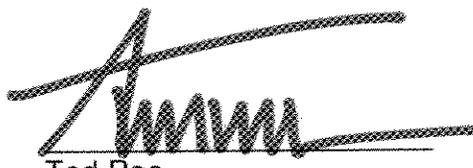
- Allows a victim to take time off from work, without penalty from their employers, to make necessary court appearances, seek legal assistance, and get help with safety planning. For families attempting to escape a violent environment, attending to such necessities is often a matter of life and death.
- Ensures that battered women can retain the financial independence necessary to leave their abusers without having to rely on welfare by requiring that states provide unemployment benefits to victims who are terminated from employment due to circumstances stemming from domestic violence.
- Prohibits employers or insurance providers from basing hiring or coverage decisions on a victim's history of abuse.

We hope you will help battered women and their families escape the cycle of domestic violence and enhance their economic security by becoming a cosponsor of H.R. 2395.

If you have further questions or would like to be a cosponsor of this legislation, please contact Sham Manglik with Rep. Roybal-Allard at x51766 or Stephanie Garlock with Rep. Poe at x56565.

Sincerely,

  
Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Member of Congress

  
Ted Poe  
Member of Congress