June 10, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Skinner The Honorable Phil Ting

Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget

1020 N Street, Room 502 1021 O Street, Suite 8230

Sacramento, CA 95814 Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments submitted via email to: AsmBudget@asm.ca.gov and SBUD.Committee@senate.ca.gov

**Re: Legislative Version of the 2022-23 State Budget**

Dear Budget Leaders,

On behalf of (ORGANIZATION NAME) and the over 30 organizations who have joined us in requesting funding to address domestic and sexual violence in the 2022-23 budget, we write to express our deep disappointment that the budget proposed by the Legislature fails to include any of the [$40.5 million requested](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tichTyn0apcCqwFyk2uTsDfaey8z44BiOOs3N-IntjQ/edit?usp=sharing) for these issues.

In omitting this proposal from the legislative budget, the committee failed to continue funding for existing sexual and domestic violence prevention programs, which have been supported with one-time investments in prior budget years. These prevention programs are working to stop violence and abuse before it ever occurs, and their promising work deserves ongoing funding support. Preventing domestic and sexual violence is also deeply connected to preventing other forms of violence plaguing our state, including gun violence and mass shootings. Failing to continue this funding is a missed opportunity to increase the safety and well-being of California in many ways.

In addition to this essential prevention funding, a comprehensive response to domestic and sexual violence needs the innovative interventions and holistic support outlined within our budget request. As the budget comes together in final negotiations, we implore you to allocate $15 million in ongoing funding for prevention programs as well as an additional $25.5 million for under-resourced and over-represented communities to support culturally specific responses, innovations, and holistic approaches to end violence for future generations.

With an overall budget of $300 billion dollars, there are ample resources available for this modest proposal. Now, more than ever, we need your leadership to support these initiatives which can prevent violence and provide healing and response when it occurs.

Sincerely,

NAME

ORGANIZATION