



Advocacy Update

Sent August 8, 2012

Preparing for 7 Billion: Family Planning

In October, the global community reached a population of 7 billion. While the celebration of humanity is one to be embraced, the world has a limited carrying capacity. With a predicted population of 9 billion, we will become an overwhelming burden on our planet. "Family Planning" is about safe motherhood, safe sex practices, and the power to determine when and how many children will be brought into our global community. A world with 7, 9, or 11 billion will require us to focus on the needs of a global community and, in doing so, to consider and advocate for the importance of international family planning services.

Support Reproductive Rights for Servicewomen

Senator Shaheen (D-NH) is expected to offer an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act that would repeal the ban on the military's insurance coverage for abortion services for survivors of rape or incest.

To learn more about the inequality that servicewomen face, visit the [Stand With Servicewomen blog](#) and [take action](#) to help restore the reproductive rights of servicewomen.

A Violence Against Women Act to Protect ALL Victims

The 1994 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) acknowledged that domestic violence and sexual assault are crimes under the law and provided federal resources for community-coordinated responses to violence against women. VAWA was due for reauthorization in 2011 but has stalled since the House passed a dramatically weaker bill than the Senate version. Both houses must now conference to agree upon a final version of the bill, a strong VAWA that protects all victims.

Urge your Members of Congress to support a quick conference on VAWA and to support protections for immigrant, LGBT, and Native American victims.