

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DEBORAH PARKER ISSUES CLARION CALL:
ALL AMERICANS MUST NOW STAND UNITED IN PROTECTION OF
NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN & CHILDREN**

**Female U.S. Senators also demand passage of the VAWA
Reauthorization with tribal protections; all American citizens urged
to call Rep. Eric Cantor to encourage the current bill's passage**

Tulalip, WA – Today, Tulalip Tribal Vice Chairwoman Deborah Parker remains [united with all 12 Democratic female U.S. Senators](#) in demanding immediate passage of the bipartisan, Senate version of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) reauthorization.

“This issue must absolutely transcend partisan politics,” said Vice Chairwoman Parker, a survivor of abuse in Indian Country, who went public with her story this year in support of the VAWA. “It is one of our fundamental human rights – the right of each and every American woman to live free from threats or acts of physical harm.”

Parker continued: “A woman’s class of origin or race and physical location at the time of sexual assault or physical abuse should not dictate her protection under the U.S. Constitution. All women and children must be protected, especially the original women of this continent.”

It is widely reported that [House Leadership is holding up the bill](#), by objecting to provisions in the Senate VAWA that would restore to tribal governments the limited power to prosecute non-Indians who enter Indian Country and commit violence against Indian women.

“I urge all of my fellow Americans to call Rep. Eric Cantor’s office and urge that he agree to guard against any more Native women being sexually or physically abused in Indian Country,” Parker concluded.

The direct number to Rep. Cantor’s Office is (202) 225-2815.