

Strengthening Efforts to End Violence Against Children Act

Globally, Half of All Children Experience Violence

Every seven minutes a child dies as a result of violence and half of all children globally (1 billion) are victims of violence each year.

Violence includes abuse, neglect, and exploitation and can be physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional in nature. Violence can happen anywhere - in communities, schools, homes, work places, and in humanitarian settings. Sexual exploitation and abuse take many forms and include human trafficking, early and forced child marriage, homicide, online exploitation, and gender-based violence.

Children with existing vulnerabilities, including children with disabilities, children who are migrating or displaced, ethnic minorities, and children living outside of family care, are most at risk of experiencing violence.

The Strengthening Efforts to End Violence Against Children Act (SEEVAC)

The Strengthening Efforts to End Violence Against Children (SEEVAC) Act, led by Rep. Jim McGovern (D MA-2) and Rep. Maria Salazar (R FL-27), will update and strengthen existing U.S. Government efforts to end violence against children, improve interagency coordination in addressing violence, and promote the use of evidence-based strategies and information gathering capabilities. The bill will:

- **Align** current interventions for vulnerable children with USAID's Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity (APCCA) Strategy and evidence-based interventions such as the INSPIRE strategies and Violence Against Children Surveys.
- **Elevate** the USAID Special Advisor for Assistance to Orphans and Vulnerable Children and require the Special Advisor to advise USAID offices, bureaus, and field missions and other U.S. government agencies to address violence against children through the current whole-of-government strategy.
- **Update** USAID reporting requirements to identify how U.S. agencies are utilizing the INSPIRE strategies and findings from Violence Against Children and Youth Surveys, including in response to the effects of COVID-19.

SEEVAC is endorsed by American Academy of Pediatrics, Child Fund International, Futures Without Violence, Together For Girls, UNICEF USA, and World Vision.

To co-sponsor this Bill, please contact [Cindy Buhl](mailto:Cindy.Buhl@mail.house.gov), Rep. McGovern's office (Cindy.Buhl@mail.house.gov).