Washington, D.C. – Congressman Jeff Fortenberry today supported a House bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The measure provides assistance to women who are victims of domestic violence and stiffens penalties for domestic violence crimes. Fortenberry voted "yes" on the House version of the reauthorization, which was not approved. He did not support the Senate version of the bill.

"Everyone is familiar with heart-breaking stories of violence against women," Fortenberry said. "Prosecutors and police tell of the shocking regular occurrences of these tragedies. Others can tell of stories themselves. I support continuing the important programs that seek to prevent such violence and help those who have been the victims of domestic violence."

S. 47, the Senate version of the reauthorization of the VAWA, was approved this morning in the House and will go to the President for his signature.

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