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**California Legislature Fails to Fund Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention Programs
and Critical Services Needed to End Cycles of Violence**

*Survivors, Advocates & Prevention Practitioners Call for the Legislature to Ensure
Comprehensive Approach to Addressing Sexual Violence and Domestic Violence*

SACRAMENTO —The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, VALOR, the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, and the Culturally Responsive Domestic Violence Network are deeply disappointed that the budget proposal put forth by the California State Legislature has failed to not only include funding for a comprehensive response to sexual and domestic violence, but omits continued funding for existing prevention programs.

After *numerous* incidents of violence have dominated news headlines in recent weeks, we have heard California leaders making calls for actions that can prevent future violence. We know that addressing domestic and sexual violence also addresses the root causes of so many other forms of violence, including the deep links between domestic violence, rigid gender norms, racism, and mass shootings. To see those proclamations from our state's leaders not being met with investments in programs proven to prevent violence is outright irresponsible and ignores the overwhelming demand for prevention, innovative interventions, and holistic support. Without ongoing funding to galvanize communities to offer prevention programming, cycles of violence will persist throughout the state.

As the budget comes together in final negotiations, we implore the Governor and the California legislature 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.

Now, more than ever, is the time for action and investment to end cycles of violence. With an overall budget of \$300 billion dollars, there are ample resources available for this modest proposal. Domestic and sexual violence are not inevitable and can be prevented with long-term initiatives that educate and equip Californians to change unacceptable social norms and systems that perpetuate violence. It is imperative that Legislative leaders take action and fund these programs in alignment with their purported values.