



Pursuing Justice for Women and Girls

PRESS RELEASE: Governor
Signs *Justice for Victims Act* (SB 813)

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For Immediate Release

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Landmark Bipartisan *Justice for Victims Act* Signed into Law in California

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA - A proud co-sponsor of SB 813 and a stalwart advocate for social justice, the California Women's Law Center (CWLC) is pleased to report that the *Justice for Victims Act* has been signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown.

This landmark bipartisan measure, authored by Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino) and co-sponsored by CWLC and San Bernardino County District Attorney Michael A. Ramos, officially ends the arbitrary statute of limitations for rape and related felony sex crimes in the state of California.

The *Justice for Victims Act* takes effect on January 1, 2017.

Now, regardless of when a rape or sexual assault is reported or discovered, victims of sexual crimes can seek justice in the criminal courts. The new law provides a path to legal justice for victims and puts perpetrators on notice that they will be held accountable.

Supporters of SB 813 include Attorney General Kamala D. Harris, Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, Los Angeles District Attorney Jackie Lacey, San Diego County District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeffrey Rosen, California Police Chiefs Association, Crime Victims United of California, End Rape SOL, Peace Officers Research Association of California and a host of other advocates for women and girls.

On behalf of victims of rape and sexual assault in California, CWLC applauds Governor Brown for signing this important legislation, thereby adding California to the growing list of states that have abolished their statutes of limitations for rape cases. Advocating for justice on behalf of women and girls is a core mission of CWLC and one of the primary reasons CWLC co-sponsored this important legislation.

Read Senator Leyva's press release on SB 813 [here](#).

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About the California Women's Law Center - For nearly 30 years, the California Women's Law Center (CWLC) has been a champion in the pursuit of justice for women and girls. CWLC works to break down the barriers and advances the potential of women and girls in California through transformative litigation, policy advocacy and education. Since 1989, CWLC has advocated for and achieved policy change on a wide range of issues affecting gender discrimination and equality, Title IX enforcement, women's health and reproductive justice, economic security and violence against women. For more information, please visit: www.cwlc.org.



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