



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Lea Webb

Webb Legislation to Strengthen Domestic Violence Response Passes State Senate

LEA WEBB May 21, 2025

| ISSUE: **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

(BINGHAMTON, NY) — Last week, Senator Lea Webb’s life-saving legislation ([S2280A](#)) that would require law enforcement officers to conduct a lethality assessment as part of the standardized domestic incident report form when responding to incidents of domestic violence passed unanimously in the Senate.

“Far too often, victims of domestic violence slip through the cracks simply because warning signs aren’t formally recognized or documented,” **said Senator Lea Webb**. “This legislation changes that. It gives law enforcement a standardized, research-backed way to identify serious risk and respond with urgency. Passing this bill is about saving lives—and making sure no one feels invisible in their moment of crisis.”

The bill, inspired in part by the tragic death of Gabby Petito and countless others lost to intimate partner violence, seeks to prevent future tragedies by giving officers a proven tool to assess danger and connect victims with critical support services.

Said Joseph Petito, Father of Gabby Petito, “Our family stands firmly in support of NY Bill [S2280A](#). This represents a critical step towards helping victims of domestic violence by prioritizing prevention and giving our law enforcement the tools to access and respond to

domestic violence more effectively. It's a big jump to a future where every individual can feel safe in their own home.”

The legislation requires all law enforcement agencies in New York State to incorporate the lethality assessment into Domestic Incident Reports (DIRs) and mandates training for officers on its use. It also ensures uniformity across jurisdictions, enhancing both accountability and victim protection.

While some New York counties—including Broome, Dutchess, and Westchester—have already implemented lethality assessments locally, this legislation will create statewide consistency and support through the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV).

The bill is sponsored in the New York State Assembly by Assemblymember Sarah Clark ([A4899A](#)).

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