

STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 112 - CHARLESTON

EXPANDING/ENHANCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORTING EFFORTS

Would you support efforts to enhance/expand methods for reporting in South Carolina?

YES

Joe Bustos, Republican

Daniel Brownstein, Democratic

"I am unsure of the referenced research. If it was unreported how do researchers know it happened. I think we can assume there was more violence because of the COVID-19 restrictions. People need to return to their normal activities as soon as possible. Churches and other agencies that work with victims of abuse should be manned at a level to receive reports and help those victims." – J. Bustos

"Given the pandemic, much more intimate partner violence is going unreported because people are more isolated from public society than ever before. I believe we need to reach victims where they are, in their homes. We should do more as a state to publicize domestic violence and the hotline through the media and public service announcements. We also make sure our shelters have the resources to serve victims in a safe manner." – D. Brownstein

SUPPORT FOR GOING BEYOND CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE

Would you support the creation of a statewide plan to effectively address the issues of domestic and sexual violence beyond the criminal justice response?

YES

Joe Bustos, Republican

Daniel Brownstein, Democratic

"There should be a mental health screening system for abusers and could be referred by police or judges." – J. Bustos

"While working for a prosecutor's office, it became clear that the solution to intimate partner violence is not solely within the criminal justice system. Many victims did not wish to press charges or participate in the prosecution for a variety of reasons. I think we would be better served by diverting at least some cases into special domestic violence courts that follow a restorative justice model in which we are able to create appropriate punishments and offer underlying services such as mental health or substance abuse treatment that would benefit both the offender and victim(s)." – D. Brownstein

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INCREASED FOCUS ON PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Do you believe our state needs to increase its focus on the prevention of domestic and sexual violence?

YES

Joe Bustos, Republican
Daniel Brownstein, Democratic

“Prevention needs to be part of highschool education.” – J. Bustos

“I think prevention should start in our schools. We need to make sure that we are teaching our young people about healthy relationships and also ensure they receive scientifically accurate sexual education. The state must be a better partner in this.” – D. Brownstein

SUPPORT ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE SERVICE PROVIDERS

Would you support additional state funding be allocated to victim service providers?

YES

Daniel Brownstein, Democratic

NO

Joe Bustos, Republican

Do you believe additional federal funding should be allocated to victim service providers?

YES

Joe Bustos, Republican
Daniel Brownstein, Democratic

“Levy an additional cost to those abusers or have them pay for services provided.” – J. Bustos

“I think the state should increase both its domestic violence and sexual assault funding to ensure that all of our state’s domestic violence and rape crisis centers are able to continue to serve the community during our time of intense need. Right now those organizations do receive a number of pass-through federal grants, but very little in the way of state funds.” – D. Brownstein