Dear XXX

As your constituent and a Women’s Aid Campaign Champion, I am writing to ask that you attend the Private Member’s Bill on Preventing and Combatting Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence on16 December 2016.

This vote really matters. You may already know the statistics. The police receive over one hundred calls about domestic abuse every single hour. On average, two women every week are killed by their partner or ex-partner in England and Wales. But behind those statistics are real women. Children robbed of their mothers. Real families being robbed of daughters, sisters, aunts. Not only does domestic abuse cost our police, health system and public services billions each year, it devastates lives up and down the country.

I want our Government to take action, and ensure all of us can live free from violence and abuse. How? By ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence – the “Istanbul Convention”.

This historic international treaty makes violence and abuse against women and girls illegal. When a Government ratifies the Convention, they are legally bound to prevent and tackle violence against women. Crucially, the Convention gives all survivors of domestic abuse the right to access the specialist services – such as local Women’s Aid refuges – which they need to live in safety and rebuild their lives. As I’m sure you know, these services are currently facing crisis. Since 2010, 17% of specialist refuges in England have closed down. On an average day last year, 92 women and 75 children were turned away from refuge because there was not enough space.

The UK Government signed the Convention is 2012. But until they ratify it, the Convention remains just a piece of paper. If 100 MPs attend this historic debate on 16 December and vote in favour of the Istanbul Convention, we will be one step closer to ratification. One step closer to protecting life-saving services and the women and children that depend on them.

As my MP, and a representative of domestic abuse victims and survivors in [INSTERT CONSTITUENCY] please seize this opportunity to “*Change Herstory*.” Please attend and vote to support the Private Members Bill on 16 December 2016.

You can find out more about this historic vote here: <http://icchange.co.uk/pmb/>

Thank you for considering this request, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]