

July 1, 2024

Dear US Senators:

We, a community of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and leaders working to end human trafficking, declare in solidarity that we strongly support a comprehensive reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) before the end of the 118th Congress.

We are grateful that the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (H.R. 5856) passed the U.S. House of Representatives on February 13, 2024 by a resounding bipartisan vote of 414 to 11. We were also pleased that the International Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (S. 920) was reported favorably with bipartisan support by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on June 12, 2023. We urge you to prioritize passage of a unified comprehensive bill to reauthorize essential domestic and international anti-trafficking programs, which lapsed in September 2021 and still await reauthorization.

The TVPA is the most foundational piece of anti-trafficking legislation in the United States because it governs the federal government's comprehensive response to human trafficking. Most notably, it provides critical funding to support survivors and to combat human trafficking in all forms both domestically and internationally. The current reauthorization improves existing efforts to prevent trafficking, protect victims and prosecute traffickers. While there is a surge of new child protection legislation within the 118th Congress, critical funding and policy provisions within TVPA have fallen through the cracks. Portions of the TVPA were reauthorized during the 117th Congress, but major elements of the reauthorization did not receive final approval and urgently require passage.

Human trafficking, also known as trafficking in persons or "modern slavery," deprives people of their freedom, wages and dignity. According to the U.S. Department of State, trafficking "undermines national security, distorts markets, and enriches transnational criminals and terrorists."¹ It is increasing around the world at an alarming rate, and is one of the greatest humanitarian crises of our time.

TVPA reauthorization represents a bipartisan and bicameral effort to prevent and stop human trafficking both here in the United States and internationally. We thank you for your leadership and implore you to immediately prioritize the passage of this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

¹ U.S. Department of State Policy Issues: Human Trafficking <https://www.state.gov/policy-issues/human-trafficking/>

Organizations:

3Strands Global Foundation
AgroBiz
Alabaster Jar Project
Alternative Solutions
Altus Solutions
Amirah, Inc.
AncoraTN
Anti-Human Trafficking Intelligence Initiative (ATII)
Ascend Consulting
Bekah Speaks Out
Billings Clinic Emergency Department
Brandi Nichole Family Enrichment Center
CCAHT / Grow Free Tennessee
Changing Destinies Ministry
Cheyenne River Education Agency
Covenant House International
Dahlia Grove
Daughters of Worth
Empowered Network
Faith and Freedom Coalition
FLITE Center
Forever Free
FREE Network
Freedom Business Alliance
General Federation of Women's Clubs
Global Hope 365
Hollie Nadel – Survivor Leader
Hope for Justice
Human Trafficking Prevention Alliance
Interparliamentary Taskforce on Human Trafficking
Jordan Community Resource Center
Justice Restoration Center
Kaleido Incorporated
Legacy of Hope International
Love Never Fails
Lynn's Warriors
Mayor Melissa Elliott (Henderson, NC)
Mentari
Mujeres en Resistencia
My House Matsu
North Carolina Stop Human Trafficking
On Eagles Wings
Paving the Way Foundation
Porn Free Colorado

Prevention Works Joint Task Force and Coalition
Project STAND
Rain Collective
Raven
Realized Potential Inc.
Safelight Inc.
Safety Compass
Secure Survivors
Shandra Woworuntu – Survivor Leader
Shared Hope International
SK Sultana LLC
Social Systems Consulting
SW Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Stand Against Trafficking USA
Stepping Stones Network
Survivor Leader Network of San Diego
Survivor-Led Solutions
Terebinth Refuge
The A21 Campaign
The Family Partnership
The Foundation United
The Human Trafficking Source
The Secret Place Home
The Worthy Ranch
There is Hope for Me, Inc.
Thistle Farms
The Jensen Project
Triad Ladder of Hope
Uncaged
World Without Exploitation
Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch
Yellowstone Human Trafficking Task Force
YWCA