

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

April 7, 2014

We are a coalition of organizations from across the United States dedicated to improving the lives of vulnerable women and children and write to express our support for the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2013. The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act would provide much needed services and support to domestic victims of trafficking and provide a tool for law enforcement, courts, and the anti-trafficking task forces throughout the country to effectively target the demand that fuels the sex trafficking market.

The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act provides unprecedented support to *domestic* victims of trafficking, who are too often invisible and underserved, by creating grants for state and local governments to develop comprehensive support programs for victims. In addition, the Act will directly assist domestic victims of trafficking by finally allowing them access to the same services and support systems that have been previously available only to foreign victims of human trafficking in the U.S. This legislation is crucial in that it increases the availability of restitution and witness assistance for victims while simultaneously increasing the maximum penalties for a number of human trafficking-related crimes.

Every day in this country, thousands of women and children are bought and sold. The unfettered demand for sex, with underage girls in particular, has caused pimps and exploiters to resort to more extreme tactics in order to meet the growing demand. Women and children, especially girls, are advertised online where buyers purchase them with ease, anonymity, and impunity. This happens in every city, in every state.

The elimination of sex trafficking is fundamentally linked to targeting the demand for commercial sex. Any effort to prevent sex trafficking must focus on the sex buyers and facilitators. Without buyers of commercial sex, sex trafficking would not exist.

This legislation is vital. The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2013 represents an effort to provide the necessary support services to our domestic victims of trafficking in the U.S. and to target the culture of impunity for those who seek to purchase sex, especially with children. As leaders in the anti-trafficking, anti-violence, child welfare, civil rights, runaway and homeless youth, faith-based, and human rights movements, we urge Congress to pass this critical piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

1. Abundant Life Ranch  
Lee's Summit, Missouri
2. Adonai's House  
Bexley, Ohio
3. Advisory Council on Child Trafficking (ACCT)  
Washington, District of Columbia
4. Advocates for Freedom  
Brandon, Mississippi
5. ACE Anti-Human Trafficking Alliance of Oxford  
Oxford, Pennsylvania
6. Albert Lea Citizens Against Human Trafficking  
Albert Lea, Minnesota
7. American Association of University Women-NYS  
New York, New York
8. Angels of Silence  
Ormond Beach, Florida
9. Associazione Iroko Onlus  
Torino, Italy
10. Baitul Salaam Network  
Stone Mountain, Georgia
11. Benton-Linn Coalition Against Human Trafficking  
Philomath, Oregon
12. Breaking Free  
St. Paul, Minnesota
13. Center for Children & Youth Justice  
Seattle, Washington
14. Chester County Anti-Trafficking Coalition  
Oxford, Pennsylvania
15. Children's Rescue Alliance  
Los Angeles, California
16. Christ the King Lutheran Church  
Cumming, Georgia
17. Christians Actively Demolishing Exploitation (CADE)  
Yucaipa, California

18. Church Women United in Colorado  
Longmont, Colorado
19. Church Women United in Texas  
San Marcos, Texas
20. Cincinnati Dream Center  
Cincinnati, Ohio
21. Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CAT-W)  
New York, New York
22. Community Action Partnership  
Washington, District of Columbia
23. Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders  
Overland Park, Kansas
24. County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA)  
Sacramento, California
25. Courtney's House  
Washington, District of Columbia
26. Covenant House International  
New York, New York
27. Coweta CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)  
Newnan, Georgia
28. CUE Center for Missing Persons  
Mandeville, Louisiana
29. Curative Groove  
Portland, Oregon
30. Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center  
Jacksonville, Florida
31. DC Rape Crisis Center  
Washington, District of Columbia
32. DC Stop Modern Slavery  
Washington, District of Columbia
33. Disciple Women of Faith – First Christian Church  
Mountain Home, Arkansas
34. Disciple Women of Highland Christian Church  
Bella Vista, Arkansas

35. Disciples of Christ  
Bismarck, Arkansas
36. Disciples Women's Ministries  
Shreveport, Louisiana
37. Door to Grace  
Corvallis, Oregon
38. Drexel University College of Nursing and Health Professions  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
39. Elbert T. Chester Ministries, Inc.  
Floral Park, New York
40. End Child Prostitution and Trafficking-USA (ECPAT-USA)  
New York, New York
41. Engage Daily  
Jacksonville, Florida
42. Equality Now  
New York, New York
43. European Women's Lobby  
Brussels, Belgium
44. Exchange Initiative  
St. Louis, Missouri
45. FBI Citizens Academy Alumni Association  
Brandon, Florida
46. Fellowship for International Revival and Evangelism (FIRE) International  
Concord, North Carolina
47. First Baptist Church of Carthage  
Carthage, Illinois
48. First Methodist Human Trafficking Task Force  
Dallas, Texas
49. First United Methodist Church Grand Prairie  
Grand Prairie, Texas
50. Florence Baptist Association  
Florence, South Carolina
51. Foster Family-based Treatment Association  
Hackensack, New Jersey

52. Free for Life International  
Franklin, Tennessee
53. Free the Girls  
Denver, Colorado
54. Freeborn County Crime Victim's Crisis Center  
Albert Lea, Minnesota
55. Freedom House Detroit  
Detroit, Michigan
56. Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS) Council of Daughters  
Lowell, Massachusetts
57. Girls, Inc.  
New York, New York
58. Girls Inc. of Northwest Oregon  
Portland, Oregon
59. Global Centurion Foundation  
Washington, District of Columbia
60. Grace Church  
Fort Myers, Florida
61. Gracehaven  
Columbus, Ohio
62. Great River Region of the Christian Church  
Little Rock, Arkansas
63. Harrisburg District United Methodist Women  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
64. Healthy Teen Network  
Baltimore, Maryland
65. Hephzibah Children's Home  
Macon, Georgia
66. Home Instead Senior Care  
Rochester, Minnesota
67. Human Life of Washington  
Bellevue, Washington
68. Human Rights Project for Girls  
Washington, District of Columbia

69. Huntsville-Madison County Human Trafficking Task Force  
Huntsville, Alabama
70. I Am Handpicked  
McKeesport, Pennsylvania
71. Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence  
Boise, Idaho
72. Impact Campus Ministries  
Cape Coral, Florida
73. Institute for Family Centered Services  
Boston, Massachusetts
74. Interdenominational Abolitionist Network  
Gold Beach, Oregon
75. International Hope Builders  
Aurora, Colorado
76. International Justice Mission  
Washington, District of Columbia
77. Inwood House  
New York, New York
78. Jesus People  
Las Vegas, Nevada
79. Kalamazoo Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition  
Kalamazoo, Michigan
80. Kamie's Hope Ministries  
Elmira, New York
81. Keeping Kids Safe  
Portland, Maine
82. Kristi House  
Miami, Florida
83. Lives Worth Saving  
Covina, California
84. Leadership Conference of Women Religious  
Silver Spring, Maryland
85. Magdalene St. Louis  
St. Louis, Missouri

86. Maryknoll Sisters, Eastern USA  
Maryknoll, New York
87. Meaningful Trip  
Seattle, Washington
88. Mercy Center  
Bronx, New York
89. Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center  
Minneapolis, MN
90. More Too Life  
Sarasota, Florida
91. Ms. Foundation for Women  
New York, New York
92. Mount Oak Fellowship United Methodist Church  
Bowie, Maryland
93. Mountainbrook Abolitionists  
Santa Margarita, California
94. My Life My Choice  
Boston, Massachusetts
95. My Sister My Seed  
Oxon Hill, Maine
96. National Association of County Human Services Administrators (NACHSA)  
Washington, District of Columbia
97. National Children's Alliance  
Washington, District of Columbia
98. National Center for Housing and Child Welfare  
University Park, Maryland
99. National Center for Youth Law  
Oakland, California
100. National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges  
Reno, Nevada
101. National Council of Jewish Women  
Washington, District of Columbia
102. National Crittenton Foundation  
Portland, Oregon

103. National Network for Youth  
Washington, District of Columbia
104. National Women's Law Center  
Washington, District of Columbia
105. New Life Refuge Ministries  
Corpus Christi, Texas
106. Not On Our Watch Advocacy  
Washington, District of Columbia
107. OneHope  
Pompano Beach, Florida
108. Operation Hope: Serving to Break the Chains  
Lake Charles, Louisiana
109. Out of Darkness  
Atlanta, Georgia
110. Overcomer Covenant Church  
Auburn, Washington
111. PACE Center for Girls, Inc.  
Jacksonville, Florida
112. Phoenix Women Take Back the Night  
Phoenix, Arizona
113. Pleasant Grove United Methodist Women  
Hanceville, Alabama
114. Prostitution Research & Education  
San Francisco, California
115. Renewal Forum  
Washington, District of Columbia
116. Restoration Project International  
Denver, Colorado
117. Restore NYC  
New York, New York
118. Rock Paper Scissors Foundation  
Tacoma, Washington
119. San Antonio Against Slavery (SAAS)  
San Antonio, Texas

120. Sanctuary for Families  
New York, New York
121. Second Life of Chattanooga  
Chattanooga, Tennessee
122. Selah Freedom, Inc.  
Venice, Florida
123. Shared Hope International  
Vancouver, Washington and Arlington, Virginia
124. Sherrons House NFP  
Waukegan, Illinois
125. She's Somebody's Daughter  
Hummelstown, Pennsylvania
126. Side By Side Church International  
Orange, California
127. Survivors for Solutions  
Encinitas, California
128. St. Francis Church  
Freeport, Minnesota
129. St. Joseph-St. Luke Social Justice Collaborative  
Watertown, Massachusetts
130. St. Mary of the Lake Human Trafficking Group  
White Bear Lake, Minnesota
131. SOLD: The Human Trafficking Experience  
West Richland, Washington
132. Soroptimist International of Atlanta  
Atlanta, Georgia
133. Soroptimist International of Mt. Vernon  
Mount Vernon, Washington
134. Soroptimist International of Stuart  
Palm City, Florida
135. Tabitha's House  
Buford, Georgia
136. The A21 Campaign  
Charleston, South Carolina

137. The Abbie Shelter & Violence Free Crisis Line  
Kalispell, Montana
138. The Albert Lea Salvation Army  
Albert Lea, Minnesota
139. The Cause Tulsa  
Tulsa, Oklahoma
140. The Center for Search & Investigations for Missing Children  
DeRidder, Louisiana
141. The Children's Village  
Dobbs Ferry, New York
142. The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence  
Washington, District of Columbia
143. The Set Free Movement  
Greenville, Illinois
144. Texas A&M Commerce Baptist Student Ministry  
Commerce, Texas
145. Traffick Free  
Round Lake, Illinois
146. Trafficking Hope  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
147. Trafficking In America Task Force  
Lecanto, Florida
148. True Colors Fund  
New York, New York
149. UNANIMA International  
New York, New York
150. United Methodist Church of the Resurrection – Stop Human Trafficking Ministry  
Overland Park, Kansas
151. UniteWomen.org  
Palm Harbor, Florida
152. U.S. Fund for UNICEF  
New York, New York
153. Vale United Methodist Church  
Herndon, Virginia

154. Victims Intervention Program  
Honesdale, Pennsylvania
155. Wesleyan Holiness Consortium Freedom Network  
Azusa, California
156. WestCoast Children's Clinic  
Oakland, California
157. West Florida Center for Trafficking Advocacy  
Tarpon Springs, Florida
158. Women of Alabaster Ministries  
Dillsboro, Indiana
159. Women's Center of East Texas  
Longview, Texas
160. Women's City Club of New York  
New York, New York
161. Worker Justice Center of New York  
Rochester, New York
162. YouthSpark, Inc.  
Atlanta, Georgia
163. YMCA of Honesdale  
Honesdale, Pennsylvania
164. YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County  
Annapolis, Maryland
165. YWCA of Brooklyn  
Brooklyn, New York