



Freedom Network USA

FNUSA's Priorities for 2021 Reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act

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1. Explicitly Address Child Labor Trafficking

Child Sex Trafficking is now being measured, tracked, reported, and studied but child labor trafficking is not because it has been repeatedly left out

- a. Amend Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (42 U.S.C.A. § 5106g) to include child labor trafficking.
- b. Amend Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2016 to include child labor trafficking in addition to child sex trafficking.

2. Ensure Appropriate Services for Survivors

Current protections are not being effectively and efficiently provided to survivors, leaving them vulnerable to ongoing abuse and exploitation.

- a. Restrict TVPA funds to only victim-centered, survivor-informed, trauma-informed, voluntary services. Survivors should not be required to meet a provider's standards of healing in order to access services and support.
- b. Mirror Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) confidentiality protections.
- c. Expand access to all HUD-funded housing and Department of Labor workforce development programs for trafficking survivors, regardless of their immigration status.

3. Expand Protections for Immigrant Survivors

Current protections are insufficient to meet the needs of all survivors, and are unused (in part) due to unnecessary eligibility limitations.

- a. Encourage all government agencies to apply for Continued Presence and provide T Visa certifications as soon as possible when requested.
- b. Allow tribal, state, and local government agencies to apply for Continued Presence.
- c. Expand waivers for criminal bars to ensure all survivors are able to access protection.
- d. Create eligibility for Lawful Permanent Residents and immigrants outside of the US.

4. Expand Legal Protections

Survivors are denied financial compensation from traffickers who threaten survivors or use bankruptcy or diplomatic immunity to shield them from accountability.

- a. Add protection from retaliation, witness tampering, and intimidation to the civil claims.
- b. Make TVPA violations non-dischargeable in bankruptcy.
- c. Exclude TVPA civil and criminal violations from diplomatic immunity.
- d. Explicitly bar sexual contact with witnesses, potential victims, and those under investigation or custody by law enforcement investigating trafficking or other crimes.

5. Expand and Strengthen Human Trafficking Funding

- a. Add funding for primary prevention research and development at CDC.
- b. Add specific authorizations for human trafficking research.
- c. Add an explicit bar on harmful practices by law enforcement and prosecutors.
- d. Eliminate match requirement from DOJ and HHS services funding.
- e. Extend the Authorization period to 5 years.
- f. Eliminate the 'Prostitution Pledge' which has been used by programs to deny services to sex trafficking survivors.