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July 3, 2013

Uniform Law Commission National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws

Dear Uniform Law Commissioners:

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing to express our strong support for, and urge you to vote in favor of, the draft legislation concerning the prevention of and remedies for human trafficking. The Committee has put forth a comprehensive uniform state law that combats all forms of human trafficking, including criminal provisions for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation, increased protections for human trafficking victims in terms of prevention and aftercare, and civil remedies to better deter human trafficking from occurring in our states. The Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking (ATEST) and the below signed groups commend the American Bar Association (ABA) and the Uniform Law Commission (ULC) for supporting this effort.

The Committee has convened a series of meetings over that last two years that has included observers from a diverse group of anti-human trafficking organizations from across the country. The Committee gave advocates with differing perspectives from across the human trafficking landscape ample opportunity to provide their expertise, feedback, and priorities to the Committee during the drafting process. We appreciate the Committee's initiative to combat human trafficking from a holistic and informed perspective and its efforts to incorporate advocate input into the legislation.

The final draft is the conclusion of a long process that required enormous support from human trafficking organizations. The drafting process and most recent drafted legislation have received widespread support from the participants in this process and is now supported by over fifty groups signed on below. Given this support, we urge you to vote in favor and without amendment the draft legislation concerning the prevention of and remedies for human trafficking.

If you have any questions, please contact Melysa Sperber, ATEST Director, at msperber@humanityunited.org or (631) 374-0749.

Sincerely,

Abolition International

Americans for Immigrant Justice

Anna Malika

Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach

Benedictine Sisters of Boerne, TX

Bridgette Carr, Esq.

Dr. Maria del Rio-Rumbaitis Chair, Sub-committee STRIPES Broward Human Trafficking Coalition

Catholic Health East

CHILDREN AT RISK

Linda Miller Executive Director Civil Society Saint Paul, MN

Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST)

Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW)

The Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters

CT Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

Dominican Sisters of Houston

Florrie Burke, Consultant

Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart

Free the Slaves

Georgia Women for a Change, Inc.

GoodWeave USA

Gracehaven, Inc.

Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA

International Institute of Buffalo

International Institute of Connecticut

International Justice Mission

Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles Ranking Member, Senate Higher Education Committee 36th Legislative District Washington State Senate

Jewish Labor Committee Western Region

Kelly Hyland Heinrich, ULC Observer

Kristin Heffernan, MSW, PhD

Law Offices of Sherrill Kushner

Lutheran Social Services of New England

Mosaic Family Services

National Network for Youth (NN4Y)

Jacqueline Zimowski Executive Director No Human Trafficking

Not For Sale

Pax World Funds

Polaris Project

Benjamin B. Keyes, Ph.D., Ed.D. Regent University Center for Trauma Studies

Religious Sisters of Charity

Responsible Sourcing Network

Restore NYC

Ricky Martin Foundation

Safe Horizon

SANDS OF SILENCE - Fighting Sexual Slavery and Trafficking

Sensibilities Prevention Services

Sisters of Mercy U.S. Province 1075 Bermuda Drive Redlands, CA 92374

Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia

Society of the Holy Child Jesus, American Province

Sold No More

Southern Arizona Against Slavery

Mr. Steve Kozachik City Councilman Tucson, Arizona

T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights

Thai Community Development Center

There Is Hope For Me, Inc.

United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries

General Board of Church and Society, United Methodist Church

University of Washington Women Center Anti Human Trafficking Task Force

Verité

Vital Voices Global Partnership

ATEST is a diverse alliance of U.S.-based human rights organizations, acting with a shared agenda to end all forms of modern-day slavery and human trafficking domestically and globally. ATEST member organizations include: Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST), Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), ECPAT-USA, Free the Slaves, International Justice Mission, Not For Sale, Polaris Project, Safe Horizon, Solidarity Center, Verité, Vital Voices Global Partnership, and World Vision.