



Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking
1700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 520
Washington, DC 20006
www.endslaveryandtrafficking.org

March 22, 2012

The Honorable Denny Rehberg, Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

The Honorable Tom Harkin, Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

The Honorable Richard Shelby, Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

Dear Chairmen Rehberg and Harkin and Ranking Members DeLauro and Shelby:

On behalf of the Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking (ATEST) and the undersigned organizations, we thank you for your leadership in the fight to end child labor, forced labor, human trafficking, and slavery, and appreciate your efforts to pass legislation to curtail these practices and provide resources to the federal agencies who are engaged in this issue. We are writing to seek your assistance in funding several programs related to child labor, forced labor, human trafficking and slavery in the FY 2013 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriation bill.

Congress unanimously reauthorized the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-386) in the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) of 2008 (P.L. 110-457). This bipartisan reauthorization extended and modified certain programs that form the core of the Department of Labor's (DOL) efforts to better document and deter the trafficking problem, as well as the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) efforts to provide services to victims of trafficking, most especially children.

ATEST recommends robust funding for DOL and HHS programs to fulfill the highest priority mandates of the TVPRA. With your leadership, DOL and HHS will document the trafficking problem and deter future trafficking, as well as provide significant services to assist trafficking victims.

1. \$7,000,000 for the DOL International Labor Affairs Bureau/Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking

ATEST is requesting \$7,000,000 in FY 2013 for the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking (OCFT) in the Bureau of International Labor Affairs in the Department of

Labor (DOL/ILAB) to implement Section 105(b)(2) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) of 2005 (P.L.109-164) and Section 110 of the TVPRA of 2008 (P.L.110-457). We are seeking the following report language.

Proposed Report Language:

The Committee recommends \$7,000,000 for the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking to implement sections Sec. 105(b)(2)(A), Sec. 105(b)(2)(D), and Sec. 105(b)(2)(E) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (P.L.109-164) regarding monitoring, standards, and consultations.

OCFT has been involved in monitoring, reporting on and consulting with other government agencies regarding child labor since 1993 and forced labor since 1999 – the longest of any government agency. As such, OCFT provides expertise and information for the range of government agencies that address forced and child labor issues.

This funding initiative will ensure that the TVPRA mandates are adequately fulfilled, and in doing so will advance OCFT efforts to accomplish related monitoring and reporting under the Farm Bill and Trade and Development Act mandates. The \$7,000,000 increase will be used to implement Section 105(b)(2) of the TVPRA of 2005 as follows:

- To monitor the use of forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards;
- To work with persons who are involved in the production of goods on the list described above to create a standard set of practices that will reduce the likelihood that such persons will produce goods using forced labor and child labor; and
- To consult with other departments and agencies of the United States Government to reduce forced and child labor internationally and ensure that products made by forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards are not imported into the United States.

2. \$10,000,000 for the DOL/Department of Wage and Hour

We are requesting \$10,000,000 for services for victims of trafficking to implement Section 107(b) of the TVPA of 2000. DOL is oftentimes the initial investigator of human trafficking crimes, including most recently a case involving over 400 victims. DOL needs the resources to protect and support victims during these investigations, including providing access to shelter, medical care, mental health services, legal services and case management. Without these necessary services many victims of this horrific crime will remain vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. We are also requesting inclusion of the following report language.

Proposed Report Language:

The Committee recommends \$10,000,000 for the Wage and Hour Division to implement Sec. 107(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-386) to ensure comprehensive services for human trafficking victims.

Although funding for victim services through DOL has been authorized for the last 11 years, no funds have been provided for victim service programs through DOL. The 2010 Trafficking in Persons Report, which ranked U.S. efforts to combat human trafficking in our own country for the first time, highlighted that in the U.S.:

Among foreign victims of trafficking in the United States, "Trafficking occurs **primarily for labor** and most commonly in domestic servitude, agriculture, manufacturing, janitorial services, hotel services, construction, health and elder care, hair and nail salons, and strip club dancing." (Report (2010) p 338. *Emphasis added.*)

These are all areas where DOL has investigative oversight. Furthermore, the report highlighted the need for increased funding for victims services. *Id.* As DOL is beginning to take steps to increase identification of trafficking victims, it is imperative that the U.S. government appropriate sufficient funds to serve these additional victims once identified.

3. \$21,800,000 for the HHS/Administration for Children and Families/Refugee and Entrant Assistance Program

In addition to the funds for DOL, the funds we are requesting for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will make significant strides toward serving victims of trafficking and fulfilling the mandate of three distinct sections of the TVPRA:

- To identify and serve foreign national victims (Sec. 301(2));
- To provide shelters for child victims of trafficking (Sec. 302(4)); and
- To create specialized case management programs to assist U.S. citizens (Sec.213).

We are seeking the inclusion of the following paragraph in the report accompanying the FY13 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.

Proposed Report Language:

Within the funds provided under this heading, the Committee recommends \$21,800,000 for the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to implement the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (P.L.110-457), as follows: \$11,800,000 to serve foreign national victims; \$4,000,000 to provide shelters for child victims of human trafficking; and \$6,000,000 to provide grants to non-governmental organizations working in communities around the country providing case management programs for U.S. citizens and legal permanent resident victims of severe forms of trafficking.

Assistance to Foreign National Victims: Since the passage of the TVPRA in 2000, certified foreign national survivors have received medical and psychological treatment, housing, access to educational programs, life skills development, and other assistance through HHS-funded NGO programs. This program has also funded public awareness, training, and coalition building to raise awareness about human trafficking among law enforcement, social services, medical staff and other potential first responders, and other faith-based and community groups.

Funding for these programs has not increased for the last five years and is currently insufficient to meet victims' needs. Although the U.S. government estimates that up to 17,500 individuals are trafficked into the U.S. each year, and the National Human Trafficking Resource Center has identified 5,300 potential human trafficking victims, HHS and its grantees have only been able to serve less than 600 survivors annually. Service providers also report that twice as many foreign national victims have enrolled in fiscal year 2012 as expected. Each year since the passage of TVPA, HHS funding has had to serve an increasing number of survivors with the same resources. For example in FY 2010, the federal government issued 449 certifications to foreign adults and 92 eligibility letters to foreign children, an increase from 330 for adults and 50 for children in FY 2009. This represents a 36% increase in adult victims and an 84% increase in child victims. Since

HHS has needed to serve increasing numbers of victims with the same level of funding, service periods for some clients are only as long as four months. This short service period challenges a survivor's ability to recover and to participate in criminal prosecutions, which can often last as long as two years.

Assistance to Minors: Minor victims of trafficking face a major hurdle to recovery – the lack of appropriate and safe housing. Law enforcement around the country has identified the lack of specialized housing programs as the greatest obstacle in bringing effective prosecutions against child traffickers. Anecdotal data from selected cities further illustrates the need for these funds. For example, in Las Vegas, outreach workers identified over 400 trafficked children on the streets in May 2007 alone. In Dallas, during a three-year period from 2004-2007, the Dallas Police Department identified approximately 280 child victims of sex trafficking by screening children who were at high risk due to past abuse and histories of running away from home. Additionally, the Senate Appropriations Committee called on the Administration to request funding for assistance to minors in its report accompanying the FY 2010 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill (Senate Report 111-066).

Assistance to U.S. Citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents: Many U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents who are victims of trafficking need specialized services. In particular, survivors who have been long-term victims of abuse and trauma, often since childhood, are in need of comprehensive case management services in order to access specific recovery programs for which they may be eligible. Similar to the assistance provided for foreign national victims, recovery programs for U.S. citizens include medical and psychological treatment, housing, access to educational programs, life skills development, and other assistance through HHS-funded NGO programs. These funds may also support public awareness, training, and coalition building to raise awareness about human trafficking among law enforcement, social services, medical staff and other potential first responders, and other faith-based and community groups. Furthermore, the Senate Appropriations Committee called on the Administration to request funding for assistance to U.S. citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents in its report accompanying the FY 2010 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill (Senate Report 111-066).

4. \$5,000,000 increase for HHS/ACF/Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstration related to the exploitation of children for labor and sex trafficking

The FY13 Budget proposes a new, \$5 million, competitive grant program to prevent and address commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) through the award of grants which focus on coordination and training related to the exploitation of children in the form of domestic sex trafficking. We support this concept, but believe it should be broadened to include all severe forms of trafficking affecting foreign, U.S. citizen, and legal resident children.

Proposed Report Language:

The Committee provides \$31,092,000, a \$5,000,000 increase above the FY 2012 enacted level, for Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstration. The \$5,000,000 increase is for the establishment of a new competitive grants program to focus on the coordination and training related to the exploitation of children in all severe forms of trafficking in the United States. The program shall apply to all children in the U.S., including foreign, United States citizen, and legal resident children. This program shall develop and improve coordination between existing systems that come into contact with child victims of human trafficking such as child welfare, runaway and

homeless youth (RHY) programs, foster care group homes, juvenile justice, law enforcement, and courts. The Committee encourages the agency to train staff and build capacity to prevent and identify child victims of human trafficking as well as appropriately responding to their unique needs.

As a champion of the victims of child labor, forced labor, and sex trafficking, you understand the complexities of these issues and the resources needed to respond to these problems. We have carefully vetted our requests to reflect the true priorities of the community, focusing on the most important and effective programs. We thank you for your consideration of these requests and your continued leadership in fighting to end child labor, forced labor, human trafficking and slavery. If you have any questions, please contact Cory Smith, Senior Policy Advisor, at csmithhu@gmail.com or (202) 361-1442.

Sincerely,

Abolitionist Faith Community

Americans for Immigrant Justice

Break the Chain Campaign

Casa de la Familia

Catholic Health East

Central Missouri Stop Human Trafficking Coalition (CMSHTC)

Chaya & API Safety Center

Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation

Church Women United

Civil Society

Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST)

Coalition of Immokalee Workers (ATEST)

Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM)

Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes
Fond du Lac, WI

The Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters

Covenant House International

Damayan Migrant Workers Association

Dominican Sisters – Grand Rapids, MI – Leadership Team

The Dream Center Foundation

ECPAT-USA (ATEST)

End Slavery Cincinnati

Freedom Network

Florrie Burke, Consultant
Freedom Network Chair Emeritus

Free the Slaves (ATEST)

General Board of Church and Society, United Methodist Church

Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS)

Laura J. Lederer, President
Global Centurion Foundation

The Glory House of Miami

GoodWeave USA

Sister Diane Bardol, GNSH, Social Justice Coordinator
Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart

Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters - USA, JPIC

Holy Union Sisters USA

The Human Trafficking Academy of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights Law at
St. Thomas University School of Law

Marianna Smirnova, Founder
Human Trafficking Resource Project

International Justice Mission (ATEST)

International Organization for Adolescents (IOFA)

Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton Ohio

Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington

Jewish Labor Committee Western Region/Los Angeles Network to End Slavery (LANES)

Junior League PA-MP State Public Affairs Committee of California

Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)

Kurdish Human Rights Watch, Inc.

Lutheran Social Services of New England

Bro. Steven O'Neil, SM
Marianists International

Lynn Kersey, Executive Director
Maternal and Child Health Access

Midwest Coalition for Responsible Investment

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
United States Province

Mosaic Family Services

Jerilyn Stapleton, President
National Organization for Women, Miracle Mile LA Chapter
Vice President, California National Organization for Women

Vanessa Bouche, Director of Policy
National Research Consortium on Commercial Sexual Exploitation (NRC-CSE)

Teresa Downing, Executive Director
Network Against Human Trafficking (Iowa)

Stephen Warnath
Founder, President & CEO
The NEXUS Institute

Jacqueline Zimowski
No Human Trafficking

Nomi Network

Not For Sale (ATEST)

Not For Sale, Arkansas Chapter

Not For Sale, San Diego, CA Chapter

Not For Sale, San Francisco Bay Area, CA Chapter

Not For Sale, Orange County, CA Chapter

Not For Sale, Colorado Chapter

Not For Sale, Connecticut Chapter

Not For Sale, Florida Chapter
Not For Sale, Georgia Chapter
Not For Sale, Illinois Chapter
Not For Sale, Kansas Chapter
Not For Sale, Kentucky Chapter
Not For Sale, Louisiana Chapter
Not For Sale, Massachusetts Chapter
Not For Sale, Minnesota Chapter
Not For Sale, Nevada Chapter
Not For Sale, North Carolina Chapter
Not For Sale, Ohio Chapter
Not For Sale, South Carolina Chapter
Not For Sale, Houston, TX Chapter
Not For Sale, Texas Chapter
Not For Sale, Virginia Chapter
Not For Sale, Washington State Chapter

Oasis USA

Kathryn Xian, Executive Director
Pacific Alliance to End Slavery

Pacific Survivor Center

Julie Fox Gorte, Senior VP for Sustainable Living
PaxWorld Management LLC

Polaris Project (ATEST)

Rabbis for Human Rights – North America
Religious Sisters of Charity

Patricia Jurewicz, Director
Responsible Sourcing Network

Richmond Justice Initiative

Safe Horizon (ATEST)

School Sisters of Notre Dame – Central Pacific Province Shalom Office

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership

The Leadership Team of The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, NJ

Sister Barbara Aires, Coordinator of Corporate Responsibility
Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth

Sisters of the Divine Savior: US Province

Administrative Team
Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi

Sister Phyllis Tierney, SSJ
Coordinator, Sisters of St. Joseph Justice & Peace Office

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet,
Albany, NY Province Justice Committee

Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia

Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania

Denise Granger, SSJ
For the Justice and Peace Committee of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield

Peter and Jocelyn White
Co-Founders, Slavery No More

Society of the Holy Father Jesus, American Province

Southern Poverty Law Center

TEN Charities/Made By Survivors

Thai Community Development Center

There is HOPE for Me, Inc.

Sister Patricia A. Daly, OP / Executive Director
Tri-State Coalition for Responsible Investment

United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries

Urban Humanitarian Project

U.S. Committee for Refugee and Immigrants

Sr. Patricia Johnson, Executive Director
U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph

Verité (ATEST)

WestCoast Children's Clinic

Vital Voices Global Partnership (ATEST)

Women's Foundation of Minnesota

Lewis Papenfuse, Co-Executive Director
Worker Justice Center of New York
World Relief

World Vision (ATEST)

Bro. Jeremiah O'Leary, Coordinator for Justice and Peace
Xaverian Brothers

Youth and Shelter Services, Inc.

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, World Vision, and one individual member, Julia Ormond, former U.N. Goodwill Ambassador and president and founder of the Alliance to Stop Slavery and End Trafficking (ASSET).