

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 20, 2012

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Norm Dicks
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Dicks,

Thank you for your past support of the many programs through the Departments of State, Justice, Homeland Security, Labor, and Health and Human Services, and Treasury that fight slavery and human trafficking. As you consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 appropriations process, we write to express our strong support for programs that work to combat the growing problem of human trafficking and slavery, and we request that you provide these programs with sufficient funding in FY 2013.

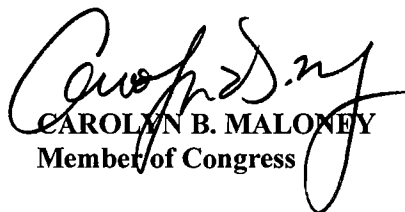
In the United States, human trafficking and slavery has been found in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. The victims of these crimes, often women and children, are subjected to severe abuses such as rape and forced labor. The number of calls to the national human trafficking hotline has increased significantly, particularly in 2011, as well as the number of victims seen by all of the critical frontline federal agencies.

Trafficking and slavery in the U.S. is part of the growing international crisis. According to estimates contained in the State Department's Annual Trafficking in Persons Report, there are 27 million adults and children in forced labor, bonded labor and forced prostitution around the world. Interpol has estimated that trafficking and slavery represent earnings of \$32 billion annually in transnational crime.

The Departments of State, Justice, Homeland Security, Labor, Health and Human Services, and Treasury all devote critical assistance designed to prevent future crimes from taking place, assisting victims of trafficking and modern day slavery, and investigating and prosecuting perpetrators of these heinous crimes. Assistance to victims as they transition to survivors is critical to the fight against trafficking.

The United States Government continues to be the most powerful institution in the world when it comes to fighting modern-day slavery and human trafficking. We urge you to provide adequate funding to these critical agencies that are assisting the victims and on the frontline fighting these crimes for Fiscal Year 2013, and thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress


ELIOT ENGEL
Member of Congress


JACKIE SPEIER
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenaue R
EARL BLUMENAUE R
Member of Congress

Edward J. Markey
EDWARD MARKEY
Member of Congress

Laura Richardson
LAURA RICHARDSON
Member of Congress

Linda Sanchez
LINDA SANCHEZ
Member of Congress

Karen Bass
KAREN BASS
Member of Congress

Tom Marino
TOM MARINO
Member of Congress

Raul M. Grijalva
RAUL GRIJALVA
Member of Congress

Bob Filner
BOB FILNER
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky
JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress

Lucille Roybal-Allard
LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD
Member of Congress

Jim McDermott
JIM MCDERMOTT
Member of Congress

Lois Capps
LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress

Michael E. Capuano
MICHAEL CAPUANO
Member of Congress

