



From Awareness to Action: Prevent Human Trafficking

Alliance to End Human Trafficking & National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd

The [Alliance to End Human Trafficking](#) (AEHT) and the [National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd](#) (NAC), continue our work to prevent and end human trafficking, keeping the needs of those vulnerable to being trafficked and those who have survived at the forefront.

Human Trafficking is a Crime against Humanity

Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to exploit another; to obtain labor or a commercial sex act. It is a crime under both U.S. and international law, and a crime against humanity. It dehumanizes and commodifies human beings, persons made in the image of God, by depriving them of their dignity. It denies their human rights: the right to life, security, freedom of movement, and the freedom from torture and degrading treatment. It is antithetical to the tenets of our Catholic faith and the values of this nation.

Current U.S. Efforts

We thank Congress for passing the Trafficking Survivors Relief Act that became law earlier this year. While we appreciate the efforts that Congress and the Administration are taking within the U.S. and internationally to end the scourge of human trafficking, more action is needed. Collaboration between Members of Congress and their staff, policymakers, and organizations like AEHT and NAC, is critical to make and

update laws and policies to better protect people from human trafficking and to provide support for survivors. AEHT and NAC offer our insights as subject-matter experts in this field.

AEHT and NAC

We are faith-based networks founded by women religious who are long known to be leaders in efforts to put to an end the recruitment and exploitation of others by force, fraud, or coercion. Catholic sisters and their partners-in-mission have educated the public about the dangers of human trafficking, accompanied survivors on their journey to healing, and worked tirelessly to eliminate the root causes of human trafficking, among them, education, poverty, displacement, and lack of social supports. Factors like conflict, political instability and natural disasters also can exacerbate these vulnerabilities.

Our "Ask"

AEHT and NAC are advocating for the passage of two bipartisan bills that are long overdue. Each offers prevention, funding, and enforcement solutions that are both actionable and reasonable measures to prevent and address human trafficking.

Specifically, we are advocating to pass:

- **Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2025 (TVPRA) ([H.R. 1144](#)):** This bill builds on the foundational, landmark Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) designed to prevent modern-day slavery, protect victims, and enhance civil and criminal penalties against traffickers.

The Frederick Douglass TVPRA would reauthorize both domestic and international provisions of the last TVPRA along with International Megan's Law requiring advanced notification of traveling sex offenders. The bill also provides for



education prevention grants serving a high-intensity child sex trafficking area or an area with significant child labor trafficking, along with offering wrap-around social services and education to prevent child trafficking through social services support for the attainment of life-skills, employment, and education necessary to achieve self-sufficiency.

H.R. 1144 also would support and strengthen programs to end human trafficking abroad. Finally, it would require the Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report from the State Department to include organ harvesting in its reporting and would require that a printed hard copy of the report be available to the public.

- **Kids Online Safety Act (S. 1748).** The internet, devices, and associated applications are tools with great benefits and tremendous risks, including sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Over the years, much has been promised and little has been done by technology companies to protect children from predators on the internet.

S. 1748 would hold tech companies accountable for duty of care on their platforms. It also would give tools to parents and children, while increasing transparency so children may be safe in their virtual spaces.