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December 17, 2013

The Honorable Frank Wolf, Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice, Science and
Related Agencies

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski,
Chair, Senate Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science and Related Agencies

Via U.S. Post and Fax

Dear Chairs Wolf and Mikulski and Ranking Members Fattah and Shelby:

The National Association of Attorneys General has made anti-human trafficking efforts one of its major initiatives. We, the undersigned states Attorneys General, urge you to appropriate funding for programs authorized by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2013 (TVPRA), enacted March 7, 2013. These funds are critical to fighting the growing problem of human trafficking and slavery in the United States.

Human trafficking is tied as the second largest and is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world, generating roughly \$32 billion each year. According to a study of Department of Justice human trafficking task force cases, 83% of sex trafficking victims identified in the United States were U.S. citizens. Shockingly, the average age that U.S. children are first used in commercial sex is 12 to 14. Victims often experience severe trauma that requires intensive therapy. Due to the complexity and resource-intensive nature of human trafficking cases, law enforcement and victim services in the U.S. are in tremendous need of funding to support the fight against human trafficking.

The TVPRA makes significant progress in protecting domestic minor victims of human trafficking, encouraging further education and awareness about human trafficking, providing prosecutors with more effective tools for prosecuting offenders, and funding task forces across the country that battle trafficking each day. We understand the tremendous fiscal challenges the nation is currently facing. Nonetheless, without continued support, much of the progress made in the fight against human trafficking will be lost; ongoing funding for federal agencies, local task forces, and victim services programs is crucial.

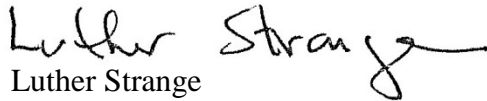
We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request and your continued dedication to the eradication of human trafficking in the United States.

Sincerely,

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<http://www.naag.org/>



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Indiana Attorney General
Co-Chair, NAAG Standing Committee
On Human Trafficking



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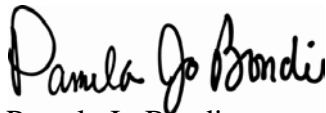
Tom Horne
Arizona Attorney General



Kamala Harris
California Attorney General



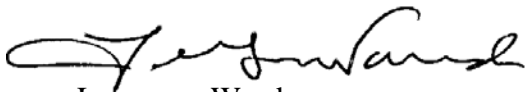
George Jepsen
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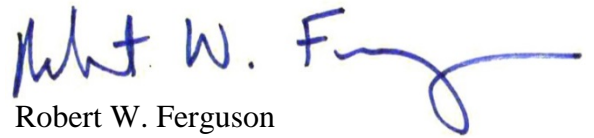
Pamela Jo Bondi
Florida Attorney General



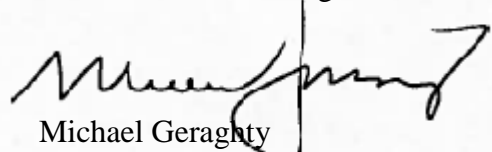
Lenny Rapadas
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Lawrence Wasden
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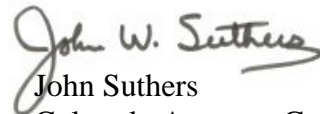
Robert W. Ferguson
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On Human Trafficking



Michael Geraghty
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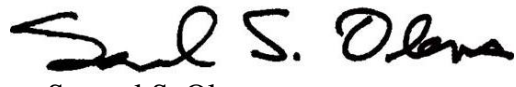
Dustin McDaniel
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John Suthers
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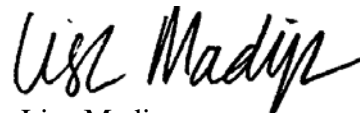
Joseph R. "Beau" Biden III
Delaware Attorney General



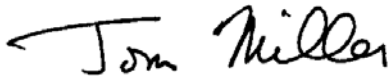
Samuel S. Olens
Georgia Attorney General



David Louie
Hawaii Attorney General



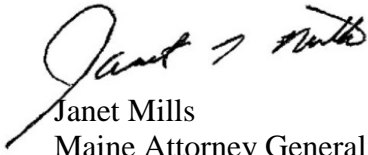
Lisa Madigan
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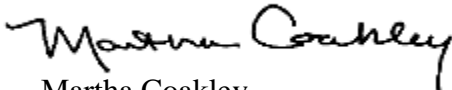
Tom Miller
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Jack Conway
Kentucky Attorney General



Janet Mills
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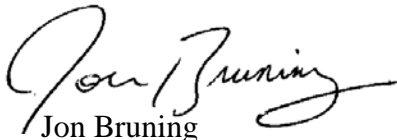
Martha Coakley
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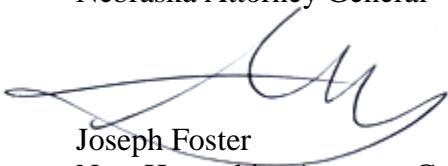
Lori Swanson
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Chris Koster
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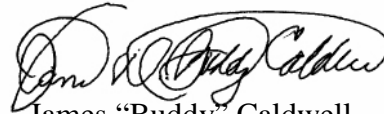
Joseph Foster
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Roy Cooper
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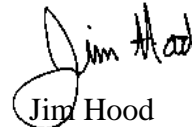
James "Buddy" Caldwell
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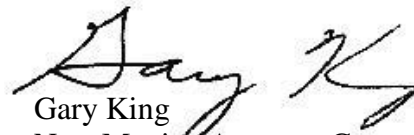
Jim Hood
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Tim Fox
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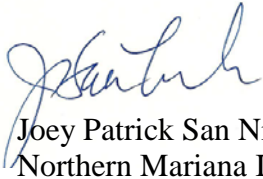
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Michael DeWine
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Ellen Rosenblum
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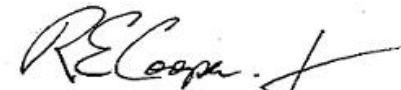
Kathleen Kane
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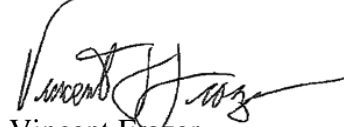
Greg Abbott
Texas Attorney General



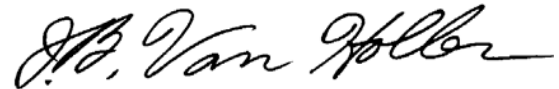
Brian Tarbet
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