

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 181

AN ACT

To provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Justice for Victims
3 of Trafficking Act of 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. VICTIM-CENTERED SEX TRAFFICKING DETERRENCE**
5 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

6 Section 203 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Re-
7 authorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044b) is amend-
8 ed—

9 (1) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-
10 section (j);

11 (2) by striking subsections (a) through (f), and
12 inserting the following:

13 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General
14 may make grants to eligible entities to develop, improve,
15 or expand comprehensive domestic child human trafficking
16 deterrence programs that assist law enforcement officers,
17 prosecutors, judicial officials, and qualified victims’ serv-
18 ices organizations in collaborating to rescue and restore
19 the lives of victims, while investigating and prosecuting of-
20 fenses involving child human trafficking.

21 “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Grants awarded
22 under subsection (a) may be used for—

23 “(1) the establishment or enhancement of spe-
24 cialized training programs for law enforcement offi-
25 cers, first responders, health care officials, child wel-

1 fare officials, juvenile justice personnel, prosecutors,
2 and judicial personnel to—

3 “(A) identify victims and acts of child
4 human trafficking;

5 “(B) address the unique needs of victims
6 of child human trafficking;

7 “(C) facilitate the rescue of victims of child
8 human trafficking;

9 “(D) investigate and prosecute acts of
10 child human trafficking, including the soliciting,
11 patronizing, or purchasing of commercial sex
12 acts from children, as well as training to build
13 cases against complex criminal networks in-
14 volved in child human trafficking; and

15 “(E) implement and provide education on
16 safe harbor laws enacted by States, aimed at
17 preventing the criminalization and prosecution
18 of victims of child human trafficking for pros-
19 titution offenses;

20 “(2) the establishment or enhancement of dedi-
21 cated anti-child human trafficking law enforcement
22 units and task forces to investigate child human
23 trafficking offenses and to rescue victims, includ-
24 ing—

1 “(A) funding salaries, in whole or in part,
2 for law enforcement officers, including patrol
3 officers, detectives, and investigators, except
4 that the percentage of the salary of the law en-
5 forcement officer paid for by funds from a
6 grant awarded under this section shall not be
7 more than the percentage of the officer’s time
8 on duty that is dedicated to working on cases
9 involving child human trafficking;

10 “(B) investigation expenses for cases in-
11 volving child human trafficking, including—

12 “(i) wire taps;

13 “(ii) consultants with expertise spe-
14 cific to cases involving child human traf-
15 ficking;

16 “(iii) travel; and

17 “(iv) other technical assistance ex-
18 penditures;

19 “(C) dedicated anti-child human traf-
20 ficking prosecution units, including the funding
21 of salaries for State and local prosecutors, in-
22 cluding assisting in paying trial expenses for
23 prosecution of child human trafficking offenses,
24 except that the percentage of the total salary of
25 a State or local prosecutor that is paid using an

1 award under this section shall be not more than
2 the percentage of the total number of hours
3 worked by the prosecutor that is spent working
4 on cases involving child human trafficking; and

5 “(D) the establishment of child human
6 trafficking victim witness safety, assistance,
7 and relocation programs that encourage co-
8 operation with law enforcement investigations
9 of crimes of child human trafficking by
10 leveraging existing resources and delivering
11 child human trafficking victims’ services
12 through coordination with—

13 “(i) child advocacy centers;

14 “(ii) social service agencies;

15 “(iii) State governmental health serv-
16 ice agencies;

17 “(iv) housing agencies;

18 “(v) legal services agencies; and

19 “(vi) non-governmental organizations
20 and shelter service providers with substan-
21 tial experience in delivering services to vic-
22 tims of child human trafficking;

23 “(3) the establishment or enhancement of prob-
24 lem solving court programs for child human traf-
25 ficking victims that include—

1 “(A) continuing judicial supervision of vic-
2 tims of child human trafficking who have been
3 identified by a law enforcement or judicial offi-
4 cer as a potential victim of child human traf-
5 ficking, regardless of whether the victim has
6 been charged with a crime related to human
7 trafficking;

8 “(B) the development of specialized and in-
9 dividualized treatment programs for identified
10 victims of child human trafficking, including—

11 “(i) State-administered outpatient
12 treatment;

13 “(ii) life skills training;

14 “(iii) housing placement;

15 “(iv) vocational training;

16 “(v) education;

17 “(vi) family support services; and

18 “(vii) job placement; and

19 “(C) collaborative efforts with child advo-
20 cacy centers, child welfare agencies, shelters,
21 and non-governmental organizations to provide
22 services to victims and encourage cooperation
23 with law enforcement; and

1 “(4) the establishment or enhancement of vic-
2 tims’ services programs for victims of child human
3 trafficking, which offer services including—

4 “(A) residential care, including temporary
5 or long-term placement, as appropriate;

6 “(B) 24-hour emergency social services re-
7 sponse systems; and

8 “(C) counseling and case management
9 services.

10 “(c) APPLICATION.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity shall sub-
12 mit an application to the Attorney General for a
13 grant under this section in such form and manner
14 as the Attorney General may require.

15 “(2) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—An application
16 submitted under this subsection shall—

17 “(A) disclose—

18 “(i) any other grant funding from the
19 Department of Justice or from any other
20 Federal department or agency for purposes
21 similar to those described in subsection (b)
22 for which the eligible entity has applied,
23 and which application is pending on the
24 date of the submission of an application
25 under this section; and

1 “(ii) any other such grant funding
2 that the eligible entity has received during
3 the 5-year period prior to the date of the
4 submission of an application under this
5 section;

6 “(B) describe the activities for which as-
7 sistance under this section is sought;

8 “(C) include a detailed plan for the use of
9 funds awarded under the grant; and

10 “(D) provide such additional information
11 and assurances as the Attorney General deter-
12 mines to be necessary to ensure compliance
13 with the requirements of this section.

14 “(3) PREFERENCE.—In reviewing applications
15 submitted in accordance with paragraphs (1) and
16 (2), the Attorney General shall give preference to
17 grant applications if—

18 “(A) the application includes a plan to use
19 awarded funds to engage in all activities de-
20 scribed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of sub-
21 section (b); or

22 “(B) the application includes a plan by the
23 State or unit of local government to continue
24 funding of all activities funded by the award
25 after the expiration of the award.

1 “(d) DURATION AND RENEWAL OF AWARD.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A grant under this section
3 shall expire 1 year after the date of award of the
4 grant.

5 “(2) RENEWAL.—A grant under this section
6 shall be renewable not more than three times and
7 for a period of not greater than 1 year.

8 “(e) EVALUATION.—The Attorney General shall
9 enter into a contract or other agreement with an academic
10 or nonprofit organization that has experience in issues re-
11 lated to child human trafficking and evaluation of grant
12 programs to conduct an annual evaluation of grants made
13 under this section to determine the impact and effective-
14 ness of programs funded with grants awarded under this
15 section, and shall submit any such evaluation to the Com-
16 mittee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives
17 and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

18 “(f) OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—An eligible
19 entity that receives a grant under this section is subject
20 to the requirements of section 10 of the Justice for Vic-
21 tims of Trafficking Act of 2014.

22 “(g) ADMINISTRATIVE CAP.—The cost of admin-
23 istering the grants authorized by this section shall not ex-
24 ceed 5 percent of the total amount appropriated to carry
25 out this section.

1 “(h) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the
2 cost of a program funded by a grant awarded under this
3 section may not exceed—

4 “(1) 70 percent in the first year;

5 “(2) 60 percent in the second year; and

6 “(3) 50 percent in the third year.

7 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

8 “(1) the term ‘child’ means a person under the
9 age of 18;

10 “(2) the term ‘child advocacy center’ means a
11 center created under subtitle A of the Victims of
12 Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13001 et seq.);

13 “(3) the term ‘child human trafficking’ means
14 one or more severe forms of trafficking in persons
15 (as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims
16 Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)) involving
17 a victim who is a child; and

18 “(4) the term ‘eligible entity’ means a State or
19 unit of local government that—

20 “(A) has significant criminal activity in-
21 volving child human trafficking;

22 “(B) has demonstrated cooperation be-
23 tween Federal, State, local, and, where applica-
24 ble, tribal law enforcement agencies, prosecu-

1 tors, and social service providers in addressing
2 child human trafficking; and

3 “(C) has developed a workable, multi-dis-
4 ciplinary plan to combat child human traf-
5 ficking.”; and

6 (3) in subsection (j) (as so redesignated)—

7 (A) by striking “Secretary of Health and
8 Human Services” and inserting “Attorney Gen-
9 eral, in consultation with the Secretary of
10 Health and Human Services,”; and

11 (B) by striking “fiscal years 2008 through
12 2011” and inserting “fiscal years 2015 through
13 2019”.

14 **SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE**
15 **ACT OF 1990.**

16 The Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
17 13001 et seq.) is amended—

18 (1) in section 212(5) (42 U.S.C. 13001a(5)), by
19 inserting “, including human trafficking and the
20 production of child pornography” before the semi-
21 colon at the end; and

22 (2) in section 214 (42 U.S.C. 13002)—

23 (A) by redesignating subsections (b), (c),
24 and (d) as subsections (c), (d), and (e), respec-
25 tively; and

1 (B) by inserting after subsection (a) the
2 following:

3 “(b) DIRECT SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD POR-
4 NOGRAPHY.—The Administrator, in coordination with the
5 Director and with the Director of the Office of Victims
6 of Crime, may make grants to develop and implement spe-
7 cialized programs to identify and provide direct services
8 to victims of child pornography.”.

9 **SEC. 4. STREAMLINING FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL**
10 **HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATIONS.**

11 Section 2516 of title 18, United States Code, is
12 amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (1)(C)—

14 (A) by inserting before “section 1591” the
15 following: “section 1581 (peonage; obstructing
16 enforcement), section 1584 (sale into involun-
17 tary servitude), section 1589 (forced labor), sec-
18 tion 1590 (trafficking with respect to peonage,
19 slavery, involuntary servitude, or forced
20 labor),”; and

21 (B) by inserting before “section 1751” the
22 following: “section 1592 (unlawful conduct with
23 respect to documents in furtherance of traf-
24 ficking, peonage, slavery, involuntary servitude,
25 or forced labor),”; and

1 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “human traf-
2 ficking, offenses pertaining to child pornography,
3 child sexual abuse, coercion and enticement of chil-
4 dren,” after “kidnapping.”

5 **SEC. 5. ENHANCING HUMAN TRAFFICKING REPORTING.**

6 Section 3702 of the Crime Control Act of 1990 (42
7 U.S.C. 5780) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the
9 end; and

10 (2) in paragraph (4)—

11 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
12 (A), by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting
13 “paragraph (3)”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
15 “and a photograph taken within the previous
16 180 days” after “dental records”;

17 (C) in subparagraph (B), by striking
18 “and” at the end;

19 (D) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
20 subparagraph (D); and

21 (E) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
22 the following:

23 “(C) notify the National Center for Miss-
24 ing and Exploited Children of each report re-
25 ceived relating to a child reported missing from

1 a foster care family home or childcare institu-
2 tion; and”.

3 **SEC. 6. REDUCING DEMAND FOR SEX TRAFFICKING.**

4 Section 1591 of title 18, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “or main-
7 tains” and inserting “maintains, patronizes, or solie-
8 its”;

9 (2) in subsection (b)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “or ob-
11 tained” and inserting “obtained, patronized, or
12 solicited”; and

13 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “or ob-
14 tained” and inserting “obtained, patronized, or
15 solicited”; and

16 (3) in subsection (c)—

17 (A) by striking “or maintained” and in-
18 serting “, maintained, patronized, or solicited”;
19 and

20 (B) by striking “knew that the person”
21 and inserting “knew, or recklessly disregarded
22 the fact, that the person”.

1 **SEC. 7. USING EXISTING TASK FORCES TO TARGET OF-**
2 **FENDERS WHO EXPLOIT CHILDREN.**

3 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
4 of this Act, the Attorney General shall ensure that all task
5 forces and working groups within the Violent Crimes
6 Against Children Program engage in activities, programs,
7 or operations to increase the investigative capabilities of
8 State and local law enforcement officers in the detection,
9 investigation, and prosecution of persons who patronize,
10 or solicit children for sex.

11 **SEC. 8. HOLDING SEX TRAFFICKERS ACCOUNTABLE.**

12 Section 2423(g) of title 18, United States Code, is
13 amended by striking “a preponderance of the evidence”
14 and inserting “clear and convincing evidence”.

15 **SEC. 9. OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

16 (a) **AUDIT REQUIREMENT.**—In fiscal year 2015, and
17 each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the
18 Department of Justice shall conduct audits of covered
19 grantees to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of such funds.
20 The Inspector General shall determine the appropriate
21 number of covered grantees to be audited each year.

22 (b) **MANDATORY EXCLUSION.**—A covered grantee
23 that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall
24 not be eligible for an allocation of grant funds from the
25 covered grant program from which it received a grant

1 award during the first 2 fiscal years beginning after the
2 end of the 12-month period described in subsection (g)(3).

3 (c) REIMBURSEMENT.—If a covered grantee is
4 awarded funds under the covered grant program from
5 which it received a grant award during the 2-fiscal-year
6 period during which the covered grantee is ineligible for
7 an allocation of grant funds as a result of subsection (b),
8 the Attorney General shall—

9 (1) deposit an amount equal to the amount of
10 the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the
11 covered grantee into the General Fund of the Treas-
12 ury; and

13 (2) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment
14 to the Fund from the covered grantee that was erro-
15 neously awarded grant funds.

16 (d) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

17 (1) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section,
18 the term “nonprofit”, when used with respect to an
19 organization, means an organization that is de-
20 scribed in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
21 Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under
22 section 501(a) of such Code.

23 (2) PROHIBITION.—A nonprofit organization
24 that holds money in offshore accounts for the pur-
25 pose of avoiding paying the tax described in section

1 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, shall
2 not be eligible to receive, directly or indirectly, any
3 funds from a covered grant program.

4 (3) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization
5 that is a covered grantee shall disclose in its applica-
6 tion for such a grant, as a condition of receipt of
7 such a grant, the compensation of its officers, direc-
8 tors, and trustees. Such disclosure shall include a
9 description of the criteria relied upon to determine
10 such compensation.

11 (e) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

12 (1) LIMITATION.—No amounts made available
13 under a covered grant program may be used to host
14 or support a conference that uses more than
15 \$20,000 in funds made available by the Department
16 of Justice unless the Deputy Attorney General or
17 the appropriate Assistant Attorney General, Direc-
18 tor, or principal deputy (as designated by the Dep-
19 uty Attorney General) provides prior written ap-
20 proval that the funds may be expended to host or
21 support such conference, except that a conference
22 that uses more than \$20,000 in such funds, but less
23 than \$500 in such funds for each attendee of the
24 conference, shall not be subject to the limitation
25 under this paragraph.

1 (2) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval
2 under paragraph (1) shall include a written estimate
3 of all costs associated with the conference, including
4 the cost of all food, beverages, audio-visual equip-
5 ment, honoraria for speakers, and entertainment.

6 (3) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General
7 shall submit an annual report to the Committee on
8 the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on
9 the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on all
10 conference expenditures approved under this sub-
11 section.

12 (f) PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING ACTIVITY.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts made available
14 under a covered grant program may not be used by
15 any covered grantee to—

16 (A) lobby any representative of the Depart-
17 ment of Justice regarding the award of grant
18 funding; or

19 (B) lobby any representative of the Federal
20 Government or a State, local, or tribal govern-
21 ment regarding the award of grant funding.

22 (2) PENALTY.—If the Attorney General deter-
23 mines that a covered grantee has violated paragraph
24 (1), the Attorney General shall—

1 (A) require the covered grantee to repay
2 the grant in full; and

3 (B) prohibit the covered grantee from re-
4 ceiving a grant under the covered grant pro-
5 gram from which it received a grant award dur-
6 ing at least the 5-year period beginning on the
7 date of such violation.

8 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
9 nitions apply:

10 (1) The term “covered grant program” means
11 the following:

12 (A) The grant program under section 203
13 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthor-
14 ization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044b).

15 (B) The grant programs under section 214
16 and 214A of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of
17 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13002, 13003).

18 (2) The term “covered grantee” means a recipi-
19 ent of a grant from a covered grant program.

20 (3) The term “unresolved audit finding” means
21 an audit report finding in a final audit report of the
22 Inspector General of the Department of Justice that
23 a covered grantee has used grant funds awarded to
24 that grantee under a covered grant program for an
25 unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable

1 cost that is not closed or resolved during the 12-
2 month period beginning on the date on which the
3 final audit report is issued.

4 **SEC. 10. CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3771 of title 18, United
6 States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
8 following:

9 “(9) The right to be informed in a timely man-
10 ner of any plea agreement or deferred prosecution
11 agreement.

12 “(10) The right to be informed of the rights
13 under this section and the services described in sec-
14 tion 503(c) of the Victims’ Rights and Restitution
15 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 10607(c)) and provided con-
16 tact information for the Office of the Victims’
17 Rights Ombudsman of the Department of Justice.”;

18 (2) in subsection (d)(3), in the fifth sentence,
19 by inserting “, unless the litigants, with the approval
20 of the court, have stipulated to a different time pe-
21 riod for consideration” before the period; and

22 (3) in subsection (e)—

23 (A) by striking “this chapter, the term”
24 and inserting the following: “this chapter:

1 “(1) COURT OF APPEALS.—The term ‘court of
2 appeals’ means—

3 “(A) the United States court of appeals for
4 the judicial district in which a defendant is
5 being prosecuted; or

6 “(B) for a prosecution in the Superior
7 Court of the District of Columbia, the District
8 of Columbia Court of Appeals.

9 “(2) CRIME VICTIM.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term”;

11 (B) by striking “In the case” and inserting
12 the following:

13 “(B) MINORS AND CERTAIN OTHER VIC-
14 TIMS.—In the case”; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(3) DISTRICT COURT; COURT.—The terms
17 ‘district court’ and ‘court’ include the Superior
18 Court of the District of Columbia.”.

19 (b) APPELLATE REVIEW OF PETITIONS RELATING
20 TO CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3771(d)(3) of title
22 18, United States Code, as amended by subsection
23 (a)(2) of this section, is amended by inserting after
24 the fifth sentence the following: “In deciding such

1 application, the court of appeals shall apply ordinary
2 standards of appellate review.”.

3 (2) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by
4 paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to any peti-
5 tion for a writ of mandamus filed under section
6 3771(d)(3) of title 18, United States Code, that is
7 pending on the date of enactment of this Act.

8 **SEC. 11. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

9 It is the sense of Congress that—

10 (1) child human trafficking (as such term is de-
11 fined in section 203(i) of the Trafficking Victims
12 Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C.
13 14044b), as added by this Act) has no place in a civ-
14 ilized society, and that persons who commit crimes
15 relating to child human trafficking should be pros-
16 ecuted to the fullest extent of the law;

17 (2) the United States, as a leader in monitoring
18 and combating human trafficking throughout the
19 world, must hold all nations to the same standards
20 to which we hold our Nation;

21 (3) those who obtain, solicit, or patronize a vic-
22 tim of trafficking for the purpose of engaging in a
23 commercial sex act with that person, are committing
24 a human trafficking offense under Federal law;

1 (4) the demand for commercial sex is a primary
2 cause of the human rights violation of human traf-
3 ficking, and the elimination of that human rights
4 violation requires the elimination of that demand;

5 (5) United States citizens or lawful permanent
6 residents who are victims of severe forms of traf-
7 ficking are not required to obtain an official certifi-
8 cation from the Secretary of Health and Human
9 Services in order to access any of the specialized
10 services described in section 107 of the Trafficking
11 Victims Protection Act of 2000 or any other Federal
12 benefits and protections to which they are otherwise
13 entitled; and

14 (6) as matters stand on the date of enactment
15 of this Act, there are insufficient services and pro-
16 grams for victims of severe forms of human traf-
17 ficking in the United States, including United States
18 citizens and lawful permanent residents.

19 **SEC. 12. CLARIFYING THE BENEFITS AND PROTECTIONS**
20 **OFFERED TO DOMESTIC VICTIMS OF HUMAN**
21 **TRAFFICKING.**

22 Section 107(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection
23 Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)) is amended—

24 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (F), as sub-
25 paragraph (G);

1 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (G), as sub-
2 paragraph (H); and

3 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(F) NO REQUIREMENT OF OFFICIAL CER-
6 TIFICATION FOR UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND
7 LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS.—Nothing in
8 this section may be construed to require United
9 States citizens or lawful permanent residents
10 who are victims of severe forms of trafficking to
11 obtain an official certification from the Sec-
12 retary of Health and Human Services in order
13 to access any of the specialized services de-
14 scribed in this subsection or any other Federal
15 benefits and protections to which they are oth-
16 erwise entitled.”.

 Passed the House of Representatives January 27,
2015.

Attest:

Clerk.

14TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 181

AN ACT

To provide justice for the victims of trafficking.