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December 17, 2013

The Honorable John Carter, Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Homeland Security

The Honorable Mary Landrieu, Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Homeland Security

Via U.S. Post and Fax

Dear Chairs Carter and Landrieu and Ranking Members Price and Coats:

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.

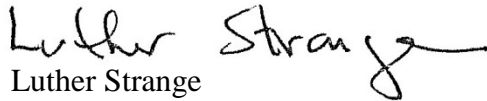
We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request and your continued dedication to the eradication of human trafficking in the United States.

Sincerely,

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Eighth Floor
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 326-6000
<http://www.naag.org/>



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



Luther Strange
Alabama Attorney General



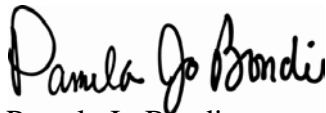
Tom Horne
Arizona Attorney General



Kamala Harris
California Attorney General



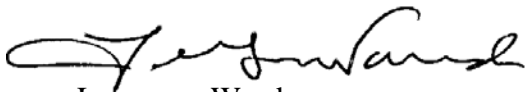
George Jepsen
Connecticut Attorney General



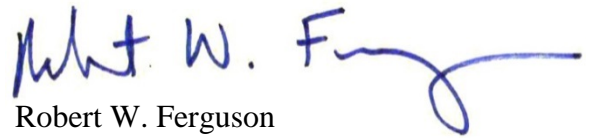
Pamela Jo Bondi
Florida Attorney General



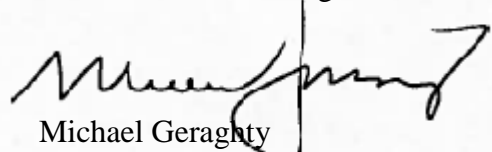
Lenny Rapadas
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Lawrence Wasden
Idaho Attorney General



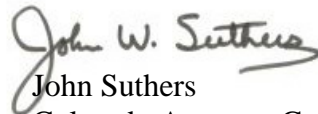
Robert W. Ferguson
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Co-Chair, NAAG Standing Committee
On Human Trafficking



Michael Geraghty
Alaska Attorney General



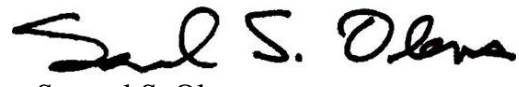
Dustin McDaniel
Arkansas Attorney General



John Suthers
Colorado Attorney General



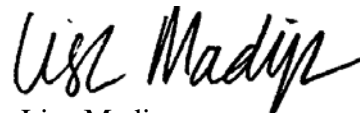
Joseph R. "Beau" Biden III
Delaware Attorney General



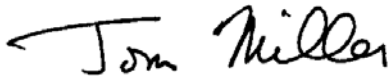
Samuel S. Olens
Georgia Attorney General



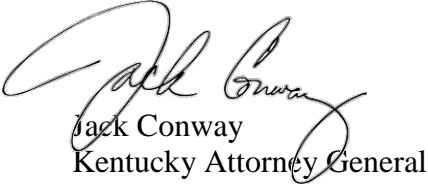
David Louie
Hawaii Attorney General



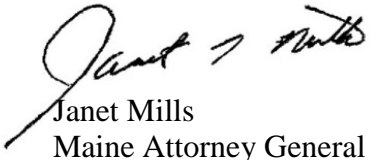
Lisa Madigan
Illinois Attorney General



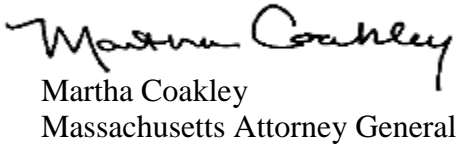
Tom Miller
Iowa Attorney General



Jack Conway
Kentucky Attorney General



Janet Mills
Maine Attorney General



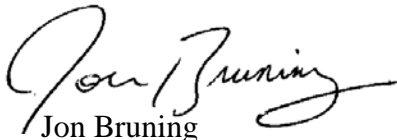
Martha Coakley
Massachusetts Attorney General



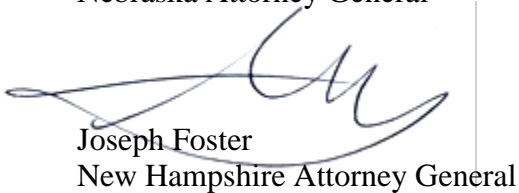
Lori Swanson
Minnesota Attorney General



Chris Koster
Missouri Attorney General



Jon Bruning
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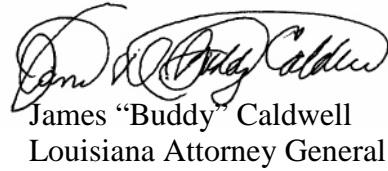
Joseph Foster
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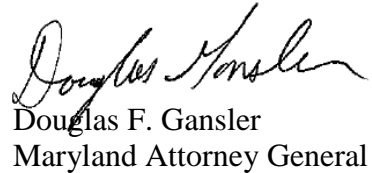
Roy Cooper
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Derek Schmidt
Kansas Attorney General



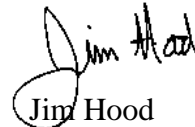
James "Buddy" Caldwell
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Douglas F. Gansler
Maryland Attorney General



Bill Schuette
Michigan Attorney General



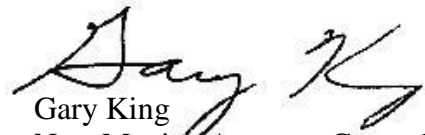
Jim Hood
Mississippi Attorney General



Tim Fox
Montana Attorney General



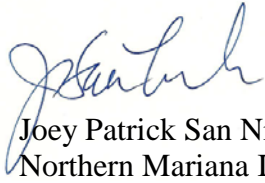
Catherine Cortez Masto
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Wayne Stenehjem
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Joey Patrick San Nicolas
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Michael DeWine
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Ellen F. Rosenblum
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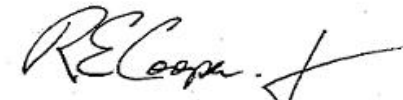
Kathleen Kane
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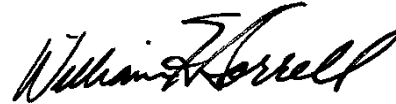
Robert E. Cooper, Jr.
Tennessee Attorney General



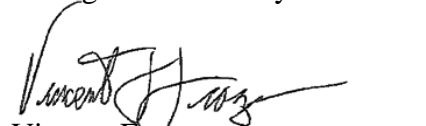
Greg Abbott
Texas Attorney General



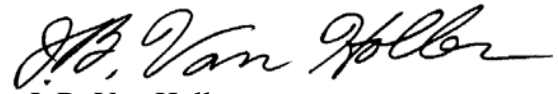
Brian Tarbet
Acting Utah Attorney General




William H. Sorrell
Vermont Attorney General



Vincent Frazer
Virgin Islands Attorney General



J. B. Van Hollen
Wisconsin Attorney General



Peter K. Michael
Wyoming Attorney General