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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.

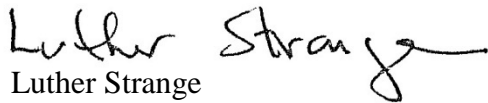
The TVPRA makes significant progress in protecting domestic minor victims of human trafficking, encouraging further education and awareness about human trafficking, providing prosecutors with more effective tools for prosecuting offenders, and funding task forces across the country that battle trafficking 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,



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



Luther Strange  
Alabama Attorney General



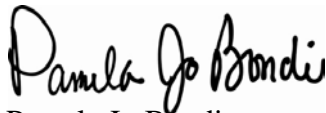
Tom Horne  
Arizona Attorney General



Kamala Harris  
California Attorney General



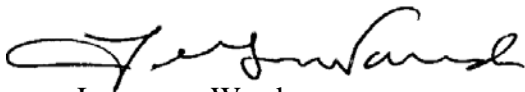
George Jepsen  
Connecticut Attorney General



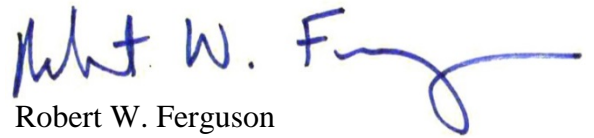
Pamela Jo Bondi  
Florida Attorney General



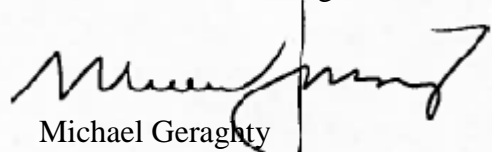
Lenny Rapadas  
Guam Attorney General



Lawrence Wasden  
Idaho Attorney General



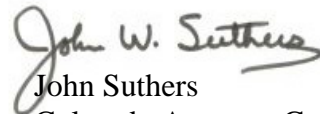
Robert W. Ferguson  
Washington Attorney General  
Co-Chair, NAAG Standing Committee  
On Human Trafficking



Michael Geraghty  
Alaska Attorney General



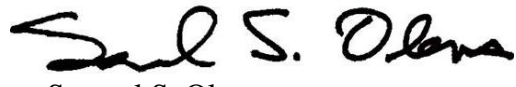
Dustin McDaniel  
Arkansas Attorney General



John Suthers  
Colorado Attorney General



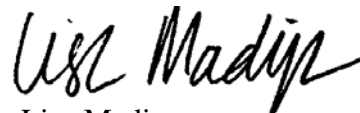
Joseph R. "Beau" Biden III  
Delaware Attorney General



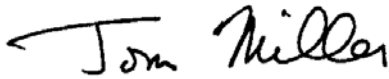
Samuel S. Olens  
Georgia Attorney General



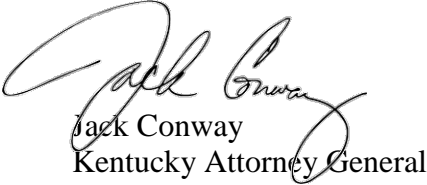
David Louie  
Hawaii Attorney General



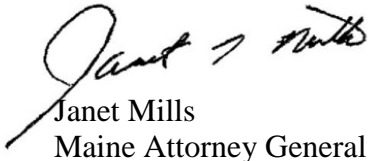
Lisa Madigan  
Illinois Attorney General



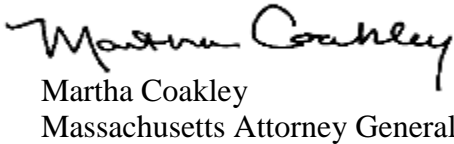
Tom Miller  
Iowa Attorney General



Jack Conway  
Kentucky Attorney General



Janet Mills  
Maine Attorney General



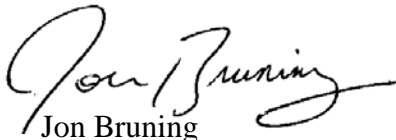
Martha Coakley  
Massachusetts Attorney General



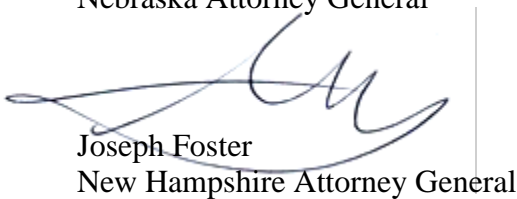
Lori Swanson  
Minnesota Attorney General



Chris Koster  
Missouri Attorney General



Jon Bruning  
Nebraska Attorney General



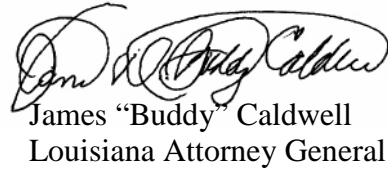
Joseph Foster  
New Hampshire Attorney General



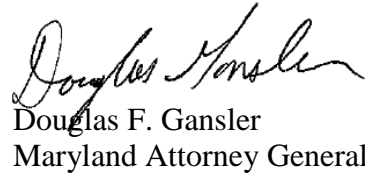
Roy Cooper  
North Carolina Attorney General



Derek Schmidt  
Kansas Attorney General



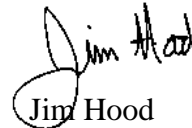
James "Buddy" Caldwell  
Louisiana Attorney General



Douglas F. Gansler  
Maryland Attorney General



Bill Schuette  
Michigan Attorney General



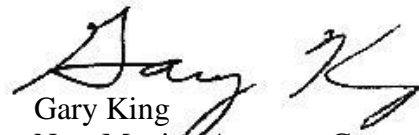
Jim Hood  
Mississippi Attorney General



Tim Fox  
Montana Attorney General



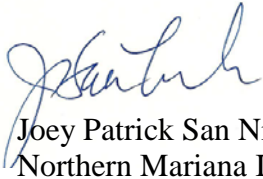
Catherine Cortez Masto  
Nevada Attorney General



Gary King  
New Mexico Attorney General



Wayne Stenehjem  
North Dakota Attorney General



Joey Patrick San Nicolas  
Northern Mariana Islands Attorney General



Michael DeWine  
Ohio Attorney General



Ellen Rosenblum  
Oregon Attorney General



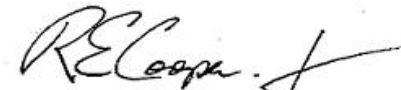
Kathleen Kane  
Pennsylvania Attorney General



Peter Kilmartin  
Rhode Island Attorney General



Marty J. Jackley  
South Dakota Attorney General



Robert E. Cooper, Jr.  
Tennessee Attorney General



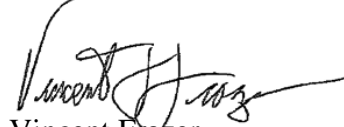
Greg Abbott  
Texas Attorney General



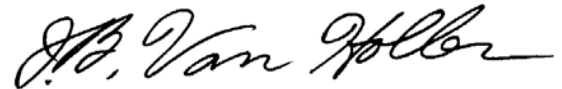
Brian Tarbet  
Acting Utah Attorney General



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