

## THE SALVATION ARMY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ANTI-TRAFFICKING

## PUBLIC POLICY COUNCIL SIGN- ON LETTER REQUEST

Date Submitted: May 15, 2013

Subject of Sign-On: In support of the Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act (H.R.

1732)

Group or Coalition Requesting Sign-On: ATEST (Alliance To End Slavery & Trafficking)

**Deadline for Signature:** June 9, 2013

**Other major supporters/signatories:** International Justice Mission (FAITH BASED), Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST), Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), ECPAT-USA, Free the Slaves, Polaris Project, Safe Horizon, Verité, Vital Voices Global Partnership

## **Summary of Sign-On Letter Proposal:**

- The bill has NO direct cost.
- H.R. 1732 is a critical piece of legislation needed to ensure that child victims of sex trafficking and labor trafficking in the US are identified by state child welfare agencies and receive the services they need.
- Amends the Social Security Act to require state foster care programs, which receive federal
  funds under the Social Security Act, to report in their annual plan on current efforts to address
  the human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children in their care; or report on
  their future plans to address the issue. It also mandates data collection on the issue of human
  trafficking.
- Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and publish: (1) best practices for training of child welfare employees and court employees on identifying all forms of child trafficking; (2) recommendations for how state welfare agencies can prevent human trafficking; and efforts to serve youth who are trafficked; (3) protocols for effective cross-collaboration between state agencies and non-governmental services; and (4) best practices to establish safe residential placement for trafficked youth. The Department of Health and Human Services will also be required to submit a report to congress 18 months from the date of enactment of



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the bill providing a summary of data as well as practices and protocols, evaluations of methods.

TSA Representative Submitting/responsible for follow up on Sign-On: Lisa Thompson

**Is TSA a member of the group/coalition?** No, however TSA is regularly aligned with the mission and values of ATEST and works in conjunction with the coalition and its members on a regular basis.

Is TSA regularly represented at group/coalition meetings? No

Who is TSA Representative to Group/Coalition? N/A

Was TSA representative involved in preparation/drafting of sign-on? No

Additional Notes: (All in reference to H.R. 1732)

- Committee Assignments:
  - The Committee on Ways and Means
  - The Committee on Education and the Workforce
- Bill Sponsor:
  - o Rep Bass, Karen [CA-37] (introduced 4/25/2013)
- Current Bill Cosponsors:
  - o Rep Chabot, Steve [OH-1] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Farenthold, Blake [TX-27] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Grijalva, Raul M. [AZ-3] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Jackson Lee, Sheila [TX-18] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Johnson, Bill [OH-6] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Marino, Tom [PA-10] 4/25/2013
    - Rep McDermott, Jim [WA-7] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Moore, Gwen [WI-4] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Napolitano, Grace F. [CA-32] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Polis, Jared [CO-2] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Rangel, Charles B. [NY-13] 4/25/2013
    - Rep Stivers, Steve [OH-15] 4/30/2013
    - Rep Vargas, Juan [CA-51] 4/25/2013

National Office of Public Policy Comments (previous sign on requests with same subject matter or group affiliation):