STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0115

## California Legislature

May 5, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor, State of California State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for \$30 Million to Assist Human Trafficking Survivors during COVID-19

## Dear Governor Newsom:

The undersigned legislators respectfully request a \$30 million allocation to address the specific health and safety needs of labor and sex trafficking survivors in California. As economic conditions worsen due to COVID-19, labor and sex trafficking victims currently being trafficked are facing increasingly unsafe, harsh, and exploitive working conditions. Resulting high unemployment rates from this crisis will likely produce an increase in the number of individuals recruited into sex and labor trafficking. Since trafficking survivors are unlikely to have access to traditional social safety nets during this time, it is important that we commit necessary resources to reach this particularly vulnerable community during this pandemic.

## Specifically, we request:

- \$21 million to current Cal-OES grantees providing services for human trafficking victims;
- \$3 million to launch a statewide hotline, technical assistance, and referral program for those seeking information and services and to report human trafficking abuse; and
- \$6 million for additional on the ground outreach and training to first responders across the state on identification and early prevention of human trafficking.

A \$30 million allocation would echo California's determination to prevent vulnerable communities from falling through the cracks, and enable organizations and first responders across the state to effectively respond to the urgent needs of trafficking survivors during this pandemic.

We commend your administration's response to the needs of California's homeless, foster youth, and undocumented immigrant populations and ask that you extend such support to labor and sex trafficking survivors.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

MICHEL SANTIAGO

MIGUEL SANTIAGO Assembly Member, 53<sup>rd</sup> District

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ELOISE GOMEZ REYES Assembly Member, 47<sup>th</sup> District

LUZ RIVAS
Assembly Member, 39<sup>th</sup> District

JIM PATTERSON
Assembly Member, 23<sup>rd</sup> District

ROB BONTA Assembly Member, 18<sup>th</sup> District

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Mike Gipson
Assembly Member, 64<sup>th</sup> District

BOERNER-HORVATH Assembly Member, 76<sup>th</sup> District

DAVID CHIU Assembly Member, 17<sup>th</sup> District

David Chice

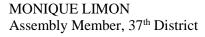
TOM LACKEY Assembly Member, 36<sup>th</sup> District

SHARON QUIRK-SILVA Assembly Member, 65<sup>th</sup> District

Sharon Quirk-Silva



FREDDIE RODRIGUEZ Assembly Member, 52<sup>nd</sup> District



CRISTINA GARCIA Assembly Member, 58<sup>th</sup> District TOD GLORIA Assembly Member, 78<sup>th</sup> District

JORDAN CUNNINGHAM Assembly Member, 35<sup>th</sup> District REBECCA BAUER-KAHAN Assembly Member, 16<sup>th</sup> District

EDUARDO GARCIA Assembly Member, 56<sup>th</sup> District

Hen Cooley

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BEN HUESO Senator, 40<sup>th</sup> District

KEN COOLEY Assembly Member, 8<sup>th</sup> District