

# 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,



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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JORDAN CUNNINGHAM  
Assembly Member, 35<sup>th</sup> District



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



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



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MONIQUE LIMON  
Assembly Member, 37<sup>th</sup> District



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



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



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