



MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

It Ends With Us



2014 Public Policy and Advocacy Agenda

Systemic change is at the core of CAST's mission. CAST has a proven track record of developing innovative partnerships that effectively advocate for policies that work to end human trafficking and help survivors rebuild their lives. Drawing from over 15 years of direct experiences with survivors, CAST has catalyzed first-of-its-kind legislation and has won the respect and partnership of a diverse group of policy leaders. CAST's 2014 agenda includes initiatives at the federal, state and county level. CAST and our coalition of partners are committed to both policy advocacy and implementation.

Federal Policy

1. To advocate for national anti-trafficking legislation, CAST is working to:

- Pass H.R. 1732 (Bass, Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Human Trafficking Act) and S. 1823 (Rubio, Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Human Trafficking Act) to increase protections, resources and data tracking for trafficked children in the child welfare system;
- Increase business transparency about slavery in supply chains in both manufactured and service goods;
- Pass H.R. 3344 [Royce, Fraudulent Overseas Recruitment and Trafficking Elimination (FORTE) Act] to increase access to information for workers lawfully entering the United States, prohibit workers from paying fees to foreign labor recruiters, require companies to utilize registered foreign labor recruiters to prevent cases of exploitation and modern-day slavery in the United States;
- Increase funding for services and law enforcement efforts to combat modern-day slavery in the U.S. and abroad for all trafficking survivors, men, women, and children, sex and labor, foreign national and US citizens.

“CAST has been a crucial catalyst for anti-human trafficking legislation at both the federal and state levels”

Karen Bass, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives

2. To promote appropriate federal agency implementation, CAST is working to:

- Ensure all Wage & Hour inspectors at Department of Labor receive comprehensive, standardized training on human trafficking;
- Ensure Wage & Hour and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) will sign T-visa certifications not just U-visa certifications;
- Request U.S. Customs and Immigration Services (USCIS) comply with federal statutory requirement to issue temporary employment cards to trafficking survivors while their T-visa application is pending;
- Ensure ongoing funding for family reunification for trafficking survivors;
- Ensure Health and Human Services (HHS) and Department of Education provide materials and guidance about all child trafficking cases to state child welfare agencies;
- Ensure specialized social service providers are linked with Innocence Lost taskforces to ensure children rescued from trafficking receive the services they need;
- Ensure that the Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking released in January 2014 is victim-centered and commitments are appropriately followed by all federal agencies.

3. To ensure that national anti-human trafficking legislation takes into account its most important constituents, CAST will:

- Support survivor-led advocacy in the human trafficking movement and policy recommendations made by survivors;
- Support the National Survivor Network federal policy agenda
- Support S. 121, (Boxer, United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking)

State Policy

1. To ensure that trafficking survivors are treated as victims, not criminals, CAST is working to:

- Pass California bill SB 738 (Yee, Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Minors), which gives Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) jurisdiction over all trafficked children and creates a statewide plan of action on this issue;
- Pass Safe Harbor provisions for child sex trafficking victims;
- Instigate a statewide plan for child welfare and juvenile delinquency programs to better address the needs of trafficked children;

“I am deeply grateful for CAST’s leadership in the anti-trafficking movement. Our work together to protect sexually exploited and trafficked minors has been invaluable.”

Leland Yee, California State Senator

- Establish jurisdiction for DCFS in every human trafficking case;
- Vacate convictions for all trafficked children;
- Vacate adult convictions for child trafficking victims tried as adults because they are misidentified as an adult;
- Create an affirmative defense for all crimes related to human trafficking for child and adult trafficking victims.

2. To prevent human trafficking through increased regulation of foreign labor recruiters, CAST is working to:

- Pass California bill SB 477 (Formerly SB 516, Steinberg, Foreign Labor Contractors: Registration) which provides information to foreign workers, creates a no-fees policy for labor recruitment, requires foreign labor contractors to register with the Labor Commission and post bonds, and creates enforcement mechanism against employers who do not use register foreign labor contractors.

3. To promote appropriate state agency implementation, CAST is working to:

- Ensure the California Attorney General’s Office enforces SB 657 (California Transparency in Supply Chains Act) to allow consumers greater information about slavery in supply chains;
- Ensure the California Tax Board makes public the list of companies required to comply with SB 657;
- Ensure implementation of appropriate Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) regulations with regard to human trafficking cases;
- Ensure effective implementation of SB 1193 (Steinberg, Human Trafficking Public Posting Requirements);
- Monitor the mandatory training required by Prop. 35 for all CA law enforcement to ensure it is victim-focused and effective.

“The supply chain and foreign labor recruitment bills we’ve worked on with CAST are at the forefront of the movement to end modern-day slavery.”

Darrell Steinberg,
California Senate
President pro Tempore

County Policy

To protect children and transitional age youth who have been trafficked, CAST is working to:

- Coordinate L.A. County’s response to the commercial sexual exploitation of children, including: victim identification, crisis intervention, mental and physical health services, and legal assistance.
- Provide education and training on human trafficking to Los Angeles Police Department and other first responders in L.A. County.

Summary Highlights of CAST's Policy Advocacy

Successful Efforts				
Title of Legislation	Intro	Enacted	Type/Status	Impact Statement
SB 657: California Transparency in Supply Chains Act	2009	2010	CA State/Enacted	CAST was an original co-sponsor of this bill, which requires businesses with over \$100 million in annual gross receipts to declare the actions they are taking to eradicate slavery in their supply chains.
SB 1193: Human Trafficking: Public Posting Requirements	2011	2012	CA State/Enacted	CAST was an original co-sponsor of this bill, which requires public posting of the CAST 24-Hour Hotline and the National Human Trafficking Resource Center in public places.
Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act	2011	2013	Federal/Enacted	CAST played a lead role in advocating for this reauthorization, which increases protections and funding for victims of human trafficking.
Efforts in Progress				
Title of Legislation	Intro	Enacted	Type/Status	Impact Statement
SB 516/477: Foreign Labor Contractors: Registration	2013	To be determined	CA State/Vetoed by the governor with recommendations for 2014.	First bill in the nation to protect workers entering the U.S. from fraudulent practices of foreign labor recruiters.
SB 738: Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Minors	2013	To be determined	CA State/Stalled in Assembly Committee on Public Safety, but will move forward in 2014.	If passed, children will no longer be prosecuted for crimes their traffickers forced them to commit. Instead, child-trafficking victims will be referred to services through the child welfare system.
HR 1732/S 1823: Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act	2013	To be determined	Federal/Referred to Committees. Enjoys bi-partisan support.	Increases protections for all child-trafficking victims by requiring states to collect data and report on a plan to combat this issue. Also requires the Dept. of Health and Human Services to publish guidance in this area.
HR 3344: Fraudulent Overseas Recruitment and Trafficking Elimination (FORTE)	2013	To be determined	Federal/Introduced in the House and referred to Committees. Enjoys bi-partisan support.	Requires companies to use registered foreign labor recruiters to prevent cases of exploitation.