

Cast

COALITION TO
ABOLISH SLAVERY
& TRAFFICKING



2020 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 20 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 2020 agenda includes initiatives at the federal, state and county level. CAST and our coalition of partners are committed to both policy advocacy and implementation.

CAST Impact Statement

By 2025, CAST will create a bridge between practice and policy, where survivors are empowered and resilient, and working with practitioners to inform a survivor-centered policy agenda. This survivor-centered strategy leads to powerful systematic changes in, attitudes, actions and resources to end modern slavery.

State Policy

- I. **To ensure that California is effectively training first responders and providing technical assistance statewide on human trafficking, CAST is working to:**
 - secure \$2.5 million in continuing funding for training and technical assistance from the California general fund.
 - CAST is also requesting an additional \$6 million in funding as a one-time budget request to support a prevalence study for the state of California on human trafficking and a study of human trafficking service providers statewide to better understand evidence based best practices serving trafficking survivors.
 - Note in 2019 \$10 million of Cast's original \$12.5 million request in continuing funding for specialized services for all trafficking victims was approved and the above requests represent the funding requests Cast has yet to secure from its original comprehensive request begun in 2015.

2. **To ensure that child trafficking survivors are treated equally, identified early, and treated as victims not criminals, CAST is working to:**
 - Pass Safe Harbor provisions for all child trafficking victims so that every child is screened for trafficking crimes prior to being arrested.
 - Establish jurisdiction for Department of Children and Family Services in every human trafficking case, including labor trafficked children who are currently excluded in California's current approach.

3. **To ensure workers entering the U.S. are not vulnerable to human trafficking, CAST is working to update provisions in the foreign labor regulation system in CA originally created in SB 477 (Foreign Labor Contractors).**

4. **To promote appropriate state agency implementation, CAST is working to ensure:**
 - That trafficking victims receive compensation from the California Crime Victims Compensation Board for lost income during their trafficking through implementation of AB 629 (Crime Victims Compensation).
 - Court guidance and updated forms for SB 832 (Vacating Convictions for Victims of Human Trafficking);
 - Judges and public defenders are educated about the new affirmative defense for trafficking victims created by AB 1761. (Human Trafficking: Affirmative Defense);
 - The California Labor Commission enforces regulations for SB 477 (Foreign Labor Contractors), 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 an enforcement mechanism against employers who do not use registered foreign labor contractors;
 - The California Attorney General's Office enforces SB 657 (California Transparency in Supply Chains Act) to allow consumers greater information about all slavery in supply chains;
 - Implementation of appropriate Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) regulations with regard to human trafficking cases;
 - Effective implementation of SB 1193 (Human Trafficking Public Posting Requirements) and SB 630 (Enforcement for Hotline Posting)
 - Monitor the mandatory training required by Prop. 35 for all CA law enforcement to ensure it is victim-focused and effective; and
 - Work with the California Governor's Office and Department of Social Services to ensure that DCFS can respond appropriately to both child sex and labor trafficking victims.

County Policy

- I. **To ensure that trafficking survivors receive the comprehensive long-term services they need, CAST is working to:**
 - Secure Measure HHH funding for specialized services for human trafficking victims and ensure all homeless service providers receive appropriate training and resources on human trafficking.
 - Secure funding for a county-wide prevalence study on all forms of human trafficking for Los Angeles County.

2. 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 and labor trafficked children, including: victim identification, crisis intervention, mental and physical health services, and legal assistance.
- Provide education and training on human trafficking to the Los Angeles Police Department, District Attorney's Office, L.A. City Attorney's Office and other first responders in L.A. County.
- Update the L.A. County first responder protocol to ensure it includes both child sex and labor trafficking victims.

Federal Policy

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

- Implement the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) in 2019, including recently enacted S. 1311 [Cornyn (R)] and S. 1312 [Grassley (R)], H.R. 2200 [Smith (R)], and S. 1848 [Corker (R)].
- Pass The Trafficking Survivors Relief Act of 2017 [S.104, Gillibrand (D) Portman (R) and H.R. 456, Wagner (R) Gabbard (D)] to allow victims to expunge their federal criminal convictions directly related to the trafficking.
- Reintroduce and pass The Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2014 [H.R. 4636, Bass (D) Marino (R)] to increase protections, resources and data tracking for trafficked children in the child welfare system and ensure that all trafficked youth are legally considered victims of child abuse and neglect and are eligible for appropriate services.
- Reintroduce and pass The Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act of 2014 H.R. 4842 [Maloney (D) Smith (R)] to increase business transparency about slavery in supply chains in both manufactured and service goods.
- Reintroduce and pass The Fraudulent Overseas Recruitment and Trafficking Elimination (FORTE) Act H.R. 3344 [Royce (R)] 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.
- Ensure trafficking victims fleeing trafficking in other countries receive protection in the United States, especially unaccompanied immigrant minors.
- 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 U.S. citizens.

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

- Implement the Survivors of Human Trafficking Empowerment Act (P.L. 114-22, sec. 115), which established the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking to ensure survivors are treated as experts and have an appropriate forum to provide advice to federal agencies;
- 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;

- Ensure all Wage & Hour inspectors at the Department of Labor receive comprehensive, standardized training on human trafficking;
 - 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 funding from the Department of Justice Office of Victims of Crime can assist trafficking survivors in need of legal assistance with criminal arrests and convictions that directly resulted from their trafficking
 - Ensure the Department of Housing is removing barriers for survivors of trafficking to access federal funding
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

Summary Highlights of CAST's Policy Advocacy

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 Hotline 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.

Title of Legislation	Intro	Enacted	Type/Status	Impact Statement
SB 477: Foreign Labor Recruiters	2013	2014	CA State/Enacted	CAST was an original co-sponsor of this bill, which is the first of its kind legislation in the nation and is designed to protect temporary workers from being vulnerable to enslavement in California.
Survivors of Human Trafficking Empowerment Act (P.L. 114-22, sec. 115)	2013	2015	Federal/Enacted	CAST supported survivor-led advocacy efforts to ensure the creation of a national council of human trafficking survivors to advise the US government. In 2016 the president appointed the first council.
CA Budget: Secured \$10 Million For Specialized Services	2015	2015	CA State/Enacted	CAST's successfully secured \$10 million for specialized services for all victims of human trafficking in the California budget. The RFP for these funds was released in November of 2015.
CA Budget: Secured \$10 Million For Specialized Services	2016	2016	CA State/Enacted	For the second year in a row CAST's successfully secured \$10 million for specialized services for all victims of human trafficking in the California budget.
AB 1761: Affirmative Defense for Victims of Human Trafficking	2016	2016	CA State/Enacted	CAST was the original co-sponsor of this bill, which was part of a comprehensive legislative package to ensure trafficking survivors are not arrested and convicted of crimes their traffickers force them to commit.
CA Budget: Secured \$5 Million For Specialized Services	2017	2017	CA State/Enacted	CAST successfully secured funding at the \$5 million level in the California budget for specialized services for all trafficking victim. This money ensured all funded service providers received continuing funding.
CA Budget: Secured \$10 Million For Specialized Services	2018	2018	CA/State/Enacted	CAST successfully secured 10 million for specialized services for all victims of human trafficking in the California budget. This money ensured that the 21 currently funded services providers were refunded in 2019.

Title of Legislation	Intro	Enacted	Type/Status	Impact Statement
Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA)	2016	2018	Federal/Enacted	Every three years CAST and its national advocacy partners, the Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking (ATEST) and The Freedom Network, USA work to reauthorization the most important piece of federal anti-trafficking legislation. Starting in 2016, CAST and its partners helped shape this bill. During the 2017-2018 legislative cycle the TVPRA provisions were introduced and passed as four separate bills S. 1311, S. 1312, S.1862 and H.R. 2200.
AB 900/629: Lost Income For Human Trafficking Survivors from the Crime Victims Compensation Fund	2016	2019	CA/State Enacted	CAST was the original sponsor of AB 900 and then AB 629 which created first of its kind legislation in the country to ensure that both sex and labor trafficking victims can receive compensation from the CA Crime Victim's board for income they lost as a direct result of their trafficking.
CA Budget: Secured \$10 Million in Continuing Funding for Specialized Services	2014	2019	CA/State/Enacted	CAST successfully secured 10 million for specialized services for all victims of human trafficking in the California budget. This \$ 10 million will be in the CA budget every year starting in 2020.
SB 630: Hotline Posting Enforcement	2019	2019	CA/State/Enacted	CAST was the original sponsor of a bill to increase enforcement mechanisms in AB 1193, a bill it originally sponsored in 2012, to ensure specified businesses post information on California and the National Human Trafficking hotline
AB 1735 Human Trafficking Caseworker Privilege	2019	2019	CA/State/Enacted	CAST was the original sponsor of AB 1735 which provided increased protections and requirements for the CA human trafficking caseworker privilege.