

Cast

COALITION TO
ABOLISH SLAVERY
& TRAFFICKING

2017 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 2017 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 bridge between practice and policy, meaning survivors are empowered and resilient, and working with practitioners to inform a survivor-centered policy agenda. As a result, this leads to systematic changes to model, attitudes, actions and resources to end modern slavery

Federal Policy

- 1. To advocate for national anti-trafficking legislation, CAST is working to:**
 - Introduce comprehensive legislation for the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) in 2017 given its expiration this year.
 - Reintroduce and pass The Trafficking Survivors Relief Act of 2016 [S.3441, Gillibrand (D) Portman (R) & H.R. 6292, 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

"CAST has assisted me in identifying ways the federal government can better assist trafficking victims and I look forward to working with CAST moving forward"

**Ed Royce, U.S.
Representative**

business transparency about slavery in supply chains in both manufactured and service goods;

Federal Policy (continued)

- 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 US 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 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 specialized social service providers are linked with Innocence Lost taskforces to ensure children rescued from trafficking receive the services they need;
- Ensure data is collected in the RHYMUS system about all trafficked youth, both sex and labor
- Ensure consular videos mandated by TVPRA 2013 are updated with survivor input and are shown in all consulate offices.

- 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:
 - Ensure Department of Health and Human Services effectively implements the Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Trafficking
 - Ensure the Department of State produces and distributes consular videos required under TVPRA 2013.
 - Effectively implement the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking
 - Pass legislation that allows trafficking survivors to expunge federal criminal records

“CAST is making a real difference in the lives of the most vulnerable members of our society, and I’s extremely grateful for their unwavering commitment to ending these injustices once and for all.”.”

**Kevin de Leon,
California Senate Pro
Temnore**

State Policy

- 1. To ensure that trafficking survivors receive the comprehensive long-term services they need, CAST is working to ensure appropriate funding for services for all trafficking victims by requesting that \$15 million be dedicated from the California general fund annually to provide comprehensive, long term, services for trafficking victims.**
- 2. To ensure that trafficking survivors are treated as victims, not criminals, CAST is working to:**
 - Pass Safe Harbor provisions for all child trafficking victims
 - Establish jurisdiction for DCFS in every human trafficking case
 - Vacate convictions for all trafficked children and adults;
 - Create an affirmative defense for all crimes related to human trafficking for child and adult trafficking victims
- 3. To ensure workers entering the US are not vulnerable to human trafficking CAST is working to update provisions in the foreign labor regulation system in CA.**

“No one reaches out to survivors with greater passion and greater personal commitment than CAST does.”

**U.S. Secretary of State
John Kerry**

4. **To ensure criminal and civil cases are protected CAST is working to update the human trafficking caseworker privilege in California.**

State Policy (continued)

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

- Ensure court guidance and updated forms for SB 832 (Vacating Convictions for Victims of Human Trafficking)
- Ensure the California Labor Commission publishes appropriate guidance and 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 enforcement mechanism against employers who do not use registered foreign labor contractors
- 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.
- 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

"CAST's survivor based advocacy work and program services have become a model for how local communities can address, combat and one day end the trafficking of our fellow beings." **Mark Ridley-Thomas. Los Angeles County Supervisor**

County Policy

1. **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 the Los Angeles Police Department, District Attorney’s Office, L.A. City Attorney’s Office 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.
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 a national council of human trafficking survivors to advise the US government. In 2016 the president appointed the first council .
CA Budget Request for 10 Million	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 Request for 10 Million	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.

Cast

**COALITION TO
ABOLISH SLAVERY
& TRAFFICKING**

5042 WILSHIRE BLVD #586
LOS ANGELES, CA 90036
(213) 365-1906
INFO@CASTLA.ORG
WWW.CASTLA.ORG