

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 7566
OFFERED BY M . _____**

Strike all that follows after the enacting clause and
insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “No Trafficking Zones
3 Act” or the “NTZ Act”.

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

5 Congress finds as follows:

6 (1) Child sex trafficking can have devastating
7 immediate and long-term consequences, including
8 health impacts, psychological and physical trauma,
9 and even death.

10 (2) While any child can be targeted by a traf-
11 ficker, research, data, survivors’ lived experiences,
12 and expertise have revealed that traffickers often
13 target vulnerable youth who lack strong support net-
14 works, supervision, care, or basic necessities, have
15 low self-esteem, have experienced violence in the
16 past, are experiencing homelessness, are experi-
17 encing academic difficulties, or are marginalized by
18 society, and lure them into forced labor and pros-

1 titution and other forms of sexual exploitation. Traf-
2 fickers are masters of manipulation and prey upon
3 vulnerabilities using psychological pressure, intimi-
4 dation, and drugs to control and sexually exploit the
5 child for their benefit.

6 (3) The National Center for Missing and Ex-
7 ploited Children (NCMEC) has received reports of
8 child sex trafficking in all 50 States, the District of
9 Columbia, and Puerto Rico. These reports include
10 incidents occurring in every type of community, in-
11 cluding suburban, rural, urban, and Tribal lands. In
12 2021, NCMEC received more than 17,200 reports of
13 possible child sex trafficking.

14 (4) Of 22,326 trafficking victims and survivors
15 identified through contacts with the National
16 Human Trafficking Hotline in 2019, at least 5,359
17 were under age 18.

18 (5) Many underage victims of sex trafficking
19 are students in the United States school system. No
20 community, school, socioeconomic group, or student
21 demographic is immune.

22 (6) While the internet and social media make
23 up the majority of first encounters, traffickers regu-
24 larly find young people in shopping malls, through
25 friends, at bus stops, and at schools. Specifically,

1 traffickers systematically target vulnerable children
2 and youth by frequenting locations where young peo-
3 ple congregate, including schools. They also use
4 peers or classmates, who befriend the target and
5 slowly groom them for the trafficker by bringing the
6 young person along to parties and other activities.

7 (7) A 2018 survey reported that 55 percent of
8 young sex trafficking survivors in Texas were traf-
9 ficked while at school or school activities and 60 per-
10 cent of trafficked adults say they were first groomed
11 and solicited for trafficking on school campuses.

12 (8) Schools can and should be safe havens for
13 students. Schools are best positioned to identify and
14 report suspected trafficking and connect affected
15 students to critical services. Students are more likely
16 to report instances of sex trafficking, attempted sex
17 trafficking, or grooming for the purposes of sex traf-
18 ficking where they feel most safe from harm and
19 threats.

20 **SEC. 3. INCREASED PUNISHMENT FOR HUMAN TRAF-**
21 **FICKING IN SCHOOL ZONES.**

22 Section 1591 of title 18, United States Code, is
23 amended—

24 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
25 section (f); and

1 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(e)(1) Whoever violates subsection (a) in a school
4 zone, or on, or within 1,000 feet of, a premises on which
5 a school-sponsored activity is taking place, shall, in addi-
6 tion to the punishment otherwise provided under this sec-
7 tion, be imprisoned for not more than 5 years.

8 “(2) In this subsection:

9 “(A) The term ‘school zone’ has the meaning
10 given such term in section 921.

11 “(B) The term ‘school-sponsored activity’
12 means any activity that is produced, financed, ar-
13 ranged, supervised, or coordinated by a school or a
14 State educational agency or local educational agency
15 or is under the jurisdiction of a State educational
16 agency or local educational agency.

17 “(C) The terms ‘State educational agency’ and
18 ‘local educational agency’ have the meanings given
19 those terms under section 8101 of the Elementary
20 and Secondary Education Act of 1965.”.

21 **SEC. 4. INCREASED PUNISHMENT FOR COERCION AND EN-**
22 **TICEMENT IN SCHOOL ZONES.**

23 Section 2422 of title 18, United States Code, is
24 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “individual
2 who has not attained the age of 18 years” and in-
3 serting “minor”; and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(c)(1) Whoever violates subsection (b) knowing, or
6 having reasonable cause to believe, that the violation is
7 committed against a minor who is enrolled in school and
8 is, at the time of the violation, in a school zone or on,
9 or within 1,000 feet of, a premises on which a school-spon-
10 sored activity is taking place, shall, in addition to the pun-
11 ishment otherwise provided under this section, be impris-
12 oned for not more than 5 years.

13 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply in a case in which
14 a minor’s presence on, or within 1,000 feet of, the prem-
15 ises on which a school-sponsored activity is taking place
16 is not related to such school-sponsored activity.

17 “(d) In this section:

18 “(1) The term ‘minor’ means an individual who
19 has not attained 18 years of age.

20 “(2) The term ‘school’ means a public, paro-
21 chial, or private school that provides elementary or
22 secondary education.

23 “(3) The term ‘school zone’ has the meaning
24 given such term in section 921.

1 “(4) The term ‘school-sponsored activity’ means
2 any activity that is produced, financed, arranged, su-
3 pervised, or coordinated by a school or a State edu-
4 cational agency or local educational agency or is
5 under the jurisdiction of a State educational agency
6 or local educational agency.

7 “(5) The terms ‘State educational agency’ and
8 ‘local educational agency’ have the meanings given
9 those terms under section 8101 of the Elementary
10 and Secondary Education Act of 1965.”.

