

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 October 1, 2024

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Democratic Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-204, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the undersigned survivors of human trafficking, representing 168 survivors from more than 41 states, we are writing to express our strong support for the **Trafficking Survivors Relief Act of 2024, H.R. 7137, (TSRA).** As survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation, many of us continue to be negatively impacted by criminal records we incurred as a result of our trafficking victimization. We know intimately that a criminal record greatly impedes our ability to heal and rebuild our lives, including our ability to access meaningful job opportunities, education, housing and even critical necessities for ourselves and our families.

The TSRA is vital because it not only recognizes the profound injustice we endured as victims and survivors of human trafficking and exploitation, but it provides a pathway for survivors to expunge our criminal records that resulted from the trauma we endured while being exploited. Many of us were forced, coerced and manipulated into engaging in illegal activities as a direct result of our trafficking situations, and the records that resulted from these experiences can haunt us long after we have exited and escaped those circumstances.

The ability to clear these records is not just a matter of legal relief; it is a critical step toward reclaiming our lives.

By allowing survivors a pathway toward vacating and expunging past records, the TSRA acknowledges that we are not defined by our past experiences but by our strength and resilience.

It empowers us to seek employment, housing, and education without the stigma of our past that often acts as a barrier to reintegration into society.

This legislation recognizes the unique challenges we face and provides the necessary support for us to move forward with our lives. It is an essential tool for helping human trafficking survivors achieve stability and independence.

We urge you to please support the **Trafficking Survivors Relief Act** and giving survivors the chance to start anew. Together, we can create a more just and supportive environment for all survivors of human trafficking.

Sincerely	,
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### Alaska

**Autumn Smith** 

#### Arizona

Adrienne Foster

Kailyn Wright

Sheri Lopez

#### Arkansas

Kathy Bryan

### **California**

April Casillas Heidi Hendrix Marjorie Saylor

Ashley Faison Jessica Kim Marta Alcaraz

Beth Ribet Jessica Mendoza Monya Davis

Christina Rangel Jewell Baraka Susan Munsey

Corina Hernandez Kathi Torres Wendy Barnes

Elisa Plata Kristi Merrill Zoe Bellatorre

Hazel Fasthorse Maria Contreras

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Autumn Burris Kelly Dore Sean Wheeler

**Connecticut** 

Mia Castleberry

**District of Columbia** 

Megan Lundstrom

<u>Florida</u>

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Breanna Cole Kimberly Weller Sabella Neal

Brianna Cho Lisa Chaloux Taneeisha Hammett

<u>Georgia</u>

Bradel Canfield Faythe Kadona

Camille Briggs Janice Johnson

<u>Hawaii</u>

Renee Walker

<u>Idaho</u>

Amanda Forest

**Illinois** 

Brenda Stewart Melloney Parker Rev. Dr. Marian Hatcher

Casey Mosher Rebecca Zeller

**Indiana** 

Eric Harris

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**Maine** 

Sonia Martin

Kasie Kirkham

**Maryland** 

Tricia Grant

Elizabeth Bowman Kyla Woods

Kimba Green Martins

**Massachusetts** 

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Audrey Morrissey Delia Vega Melanie Reddy

Cheri Crider Lisa La Voie Nicole Bell-Peña

Chrissi Bates Mary Speta Stacy Reed

**Michigan** 

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Crystal Berns Leslie King Rebecca McMillan

Eric Harris

**Minnesota** 

Margaret Velazquez

Dominique Buffett Mary Whitney Vednita Carter

Flora Whitfield Terry Forliti Yanelin Montalvo-Valdez

<u>Missouri</u>

Amanda Bruce John Price

**Montana** 

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Jennifer Runco Kenya Brown Samantha Summers-Rivas

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New Jersey

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New Mexico

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Gabrielle Prieto Laura Mullen Shandra Woworuntu

Janna Hunt Leticia Reyes Garcia

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<u>Ohio</u>

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**Rhode Island** 

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**Tennessee** 

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Crystal Horton Jennifer Lindler Nicole Hisaw

Cynthia Bailey Jonzie Hamilton Regina Mullins

Dedrea Pearson Lindsey Wolf Sabrina Turner

Galia Meira Michael Gunter Shelia Simpkins

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Angel Ivicic Dr. Katariina Rosenblatt Vertisha Grier

Angel Ivicic Esperanza Pace

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