

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2796

To reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for  
other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2025

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. JACK, Mr. CUELLAR, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of  
2000, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Frederick Douglass  
5 Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthor-  
6 ization Act of 2025”.

7 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

8 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

## TITLE I—COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Sec. 101. Modifications to grants to assist in the recognition of trafficking.

Sec. 102. Human Trafficking Survivors Employment and Education Program.

## TITLE II—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 201. Extension of authorizations under the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000.

Sec. 202. Extension of authorizations under the International Megan’s Law.

# **1 TITLE I—COMBATING TRAF- 2 FICKING IN PERSONS IN THE 3 UNITED STATES**

## **4 SEC. 101. MODIFICATIONS TO GRANTS TO ASSIST IN THE 5 RECOGNITION OF TRAFFICKING.**

6 (a) AMENDMENTS TO AUTHORITIES TO PREVENT  
7 TRAFFICKING.—Section 106(b)(2) of the Victims of Traf-  
8 ficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C.  
9 7104(b)) is amended—

10 (1) in the heading, by striking “GRANTS TO AS-  
11 SIST IN THE RECOGNITION OF TRAFFICKING” and  
12 inserting “FREDERICK DOUGLASS HUMAN TRAF-  
13 FICKING PREVENTION EDUCATION GRANTS”;

14 (2) in subparagraph (B) in the matter pre-  
15 ceding clause (i), by inserting “under a program  
16 named ‘Frederick Douglass Human Trafficking Pre-  
17 vention Education Grants’” after “may award  
18 grants”;

1           (3) in the heading of subparagraph (C), by in-  
2       serting “FOR FREDERICK DOUGLASS HUMAN TRAF-  
3       FICKING PREVENTION EDUCATION GRANTS” after  
4       “PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS”;

5           (4) by amending subparagraph (D) to read as  
6       follows:

7           “(D) PRIORITY.—In awarding Frederick  
8       Douglass Human Trafficking Prevention Edu-  
9       cation Grants under this paragraph, the Sec-  
10      retary shall—

11           “(i) give priority to local educational  
12           agencies serving a high-intensity child sex  
13           trafficking area or an area with significant  
14           child labor trafficking;

15           “(ii) give additional priority to local  
16           educational agencies that partner with  
17           non-profit organizations specializing in  
18           human trafficking prevention education,  
19           which partner with law enforcement and  
20           technology or social media companies, to  
21           assist in training efforts to protect children  
22           from labor trafficking and sexual exploi-  
23           tation and abuse including grooming, ma-  
24           terials depicting the sexual abuse of chil-

dren, and human trafficking transmitted through technology; and

“(iii) consult, as appropriate, with the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Labor, and the Attorney General, to identify the geographic areas in the United States with the highest prevalence of at-risk populations for child trafficking, including children who are homeless youth, foster youth, youth involved in the child welfare system, and children and youth who run away from home or an out-of-home placement.”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) CRITERIA FOR SELECTION.—Grantees should be selected based on their demonstrated ability to—

“(i) engage stakeholders, including survivors of human trafficking, and Federal, State, local, or Tribal partners, to develop the programs;

“(ii) train the trainers, guardians, K–12 students, teachers, and other school

1 personnel in an age-appropriate and trauma-informed fashion; and

2 “(iii) create a scalable, repeatable program or model, to be publicly available for  
3 distribution online, that can be adapted to  
4 address the needs of any school to prevent  
5 child labor trafficking, child sex trafficking,  
6 and child sexual exploitation and  
7 abuse including grooming, child sexual  
8 abuse materials, and trafficking transmitted through technology that—

9 “(I) uses evidence-based (as such  
10 term is defined in section  
11 8101(21)(A) of the Elementary and  
12 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
13 U.S.C. 7801(21)(A))) best practices;  
14 and

15 “(II) employs appropriate technological tools and methodologies, including age-appropriate and trauma-informed approaches for trainers,  
16 guardians, educators, and K–12 students.

17 “(F) TRAIN THE TRAINERS.—For purposes of subparagraph (E), the term ‘train the

1           trainers’ means having experienced or master  
2           trainers coach new trainers who are less experi-  
3           enced with a particular topic or skill, or with  
4           training overall, who can then teach the mate-  
5           rial to others, creating a broader reach, sustain-  
6           ability, and making efforts cost- and time-effi-  
7           cient (commonly referred to as ‘training of  
8           trainers’).

9                   “(G) TARGET BENEFICIARIES.—The Sec-  
10           retary shall consult with the Secretary of Edu-  
11           cation, the Secretary of Housing and Urban  
12           Development, and the Secretary of the Interior  
13           to determine the appropriate recipients or stu-  
14           dents at risk of being trafficked or exploited, to  
15           be reported with respect to grants under this  
16           paragraph, which shall include, at a minimum,  
17           homeless youth, foster youth, youth involved in  
18           the child welfare system, and children and  
19           youth who run away from home or an out-of-  
20           home placement.

21                   “(H) REPORT.—Not later than 540 days  
22           after the date of the enactment of this subpara-  
23           graph, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of  
24           Health and Human Services shall submit to the  
25           Committees on Education and Workforce, En-

1           ergy and Commerce, and the Judiciary of the  
2           House of Representatives and the Committees  
3           on the Judiciary and Health, Education, Labor,  
4           and Pensions of the Senate and make available  
5           to the public a report, including data on the fol-  
6           lowing:

7                   “(i) The total number of entities that  
8                   received a Frederick Douglass Human  
9                   Trafficking Prevention Education Grant  
10                  over the past year.

11                  “(ii) The total number of partnerships  
12                  or consultants that included survivors,  
13                  non-profit organizations specialized in  
14                  human trafficking prevention education,  
15                  law enforcement, and technology or social  
16                  media companies.

17                  “(iii) The total number of elementary  
18                  and secondary schools that established and  
19                  implemented evidence-based (as such term  
20                  is defined in section 8101(21)(A) of the  
21                  Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
22                  of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801(21)(A))) best  
23                  practices through programs developed  
24                  using such grants.

1           “(iv) The total number and geo-  
2           graphic distribution of trainers, guardians,  
3           students, teachers, and other school per-  
4           sonnel trained using such grants pursuant  
5           to this paragraph.

6           “(v) The results of pre-training and  
7           post-training surveys to gauge trainees’ in-  
8           creased understanding of the scope and  
9           signs of child trafficking and child sexual  
10          exploitation and abuse; how to interact  
11          with potential victims and survivors of  
12          child trafficking and child sexual exploi-  
13          tation and abuse using age-appropriate  
14          and trauma-informed approach; and the  
15          manner in which to respond to potential  
16          child trafficking and child sexual exploi-  
17          tation and abuse.

18          “(vi) The number of potential victims  
19          and survivors of child trafficking and child  
20          sexual exploitation and abuse identified  
21          and served by grantees, excluding any indi-  
22          vidually identifiable information about such  
23          children and acting in full compliance with  
24          all applicable privacy laws and regulations.

1 “(vii) The number of students in ele-  
2 mentary or secondary school identified by  
3 grantees as being at risk of being traf-  
4 ficked or sexually exploited and abused, ex-  
5 cluding any individually identifiable infor-  
6 mation about such children.

7 “(viii) The demographic characteris-  
8 ties of child trafficking survivors and vic-  
9 tims, sexually exploited and abused chil-  
10 dren, and students at risk of being traf-  
11 ficked or sexually exploited and abused de-  
12 scribed in clauses (vi) and (vii), excluding  
13 any individually identifiable information  
14 about such children.

15 “(ix) Any service gaps and best prac-  
16 tices identified by grantees.”.

17 **SEC. 102. HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS EMPLOYMENT**  
18 **AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
20 Human Services may carry out a Frederick Douglass  
21 Human Trafficking Survivors Employment and Education  
22 Program to prevent the re-exploitation of eligible individ-  
23 uals who have been victims of trafficking, by assisting  
24 such individuals to integrate or reintegrate into society  
25 through social services support for the attainment of life-

1 skills, employment, and education necessary to achieve  
2 self-sufficiency.

3 (b) SERVICES PROVIDED.—Services offered, pro-  
4 vided, and funded by the Program shall include (as rel-  
5 evant to the victim of trafficking)—

6 (1) enrollment and participation in—

7 (A) basic education, including literacy edu-  
8 cation;

9 (B) job-related skills training;

10 (C) vocational and certificate programs;

11 and

12 (D) programs for attaining a regular high  
13 school diploma or its recognized equivalent;

14 (2) life-skill training programs, including man-  
15 agement of personal finances, self-care, and par-  
16 enting classes;

17 (3) résumé creation and review;

18 (4) interview coaching and counseling;

19 (5) assistance with expungement of criminal  
20 records when such records are for nonviolent crimes  
21 that were committed as a consequence of the eligible  
22 individual's victimization, including assistance with  
23 credit repair;

24 (6) assistance with enrollment in college or  
25 technical school;

1           (7) scholarship assistance for attending college  
2           or technical school;

3           (8) professional coaching or professional devel-  
4           opment classes;

5           (9) case management to develop an individual-  
6           ized plan with each victim of trafficking, based on  
7           each person’s needs and goals; and

8           (10) assistance with obtaining victim compensa-  
9           tion, direct victim assistance, or other funds for  
10          mental health care.

11         (c) SERVICE PERIOD.—Eligible individuals may re-  
12         ceive services through the Program for a cumulative pe-  
13         riod of 5 years.

14         (d) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—Subject to the  
15         availability of appropriations, the Secretary shall enter  
16         into cooperative agreements with one or more eligible or-  
17         ganizations to carry out this section.

18         (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19                 (1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term “eligible  
20                 individual” means a victim of trafficking who—

21                         (A) has attained the age of 18 years; and

22                         (B) is eligible to receive services under sec-  
23                 tion 107(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protec-  
24                 tion Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)).

1           (2) ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION.—The “eligible  
2           organization” may include a nongovernmental orga-  
3           nization and means a service provider that meets the  
4           following criteria:

5                   (A) Experience in using national or local  
6                   anti-trafficking networks to serve victims of  
7                   trafficking.

8                   (B) Experience qualifying, providing, and  
9                   coordinating services for victims of trafficking,  
10                  as described in subsection (b), that is trauma-  
11                  informed.

12                  (C) A provider that has experience identi-  
13                  fying and assisting victims of trafficking, as  
14                  such term is defined in section 103 of the Traf-  
15                  ficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22  
16                  U.S.C. 7102).

17           (3) PROGRAM.—The term “Program” means  
18           the Frederick Douglass Human Trafficking Sur-  
19           vivors Employment and Education Program estab-  
20           lished under this section.

21           (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
22           the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

1     **TITLE II—AUTHORIZATION OF**  
2                     **APPROPRIATIONS**

3     **SEC. 201. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATIONS UNDER THE**  
4                     **VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND VIOLENCE**  
5                     **PROTECTION ACT OF 2000.**

6             Section 113 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act  
7 of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7110) is amended—

8                 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

9                     (A) by striking “To carry out the purposes  
10                     of sections 106(b) and 107(b),” and inserting  
11                     “To carry out the purposes of sections 106(b)  
12                     and 107(b) of this Act and sections 101 and  
13                     102 of the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Vic-  
14                     tims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization  
15                     Act of 2023,”; and

16                     (B) by striking “\$19,500,000” and all that  
17                     follows, and inserting “\$30,755,000 for each of  
18                     the fiscal years 2025 through 2029, of which  
19                     \$5,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated in  
20                     each fiscal year for the National Human Traf-  
21                     ficking Hotline and for cybersecurity and public  
22                     education campaigns, in consultation with the  
23                     Secretary of Homeland Security, for identifying  
24                     and responding as needed to cases of human  
25                     trafficking.”; and

1           (2) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “2018  
2           through 2021” and inserting “2025 through 2029,  
3           of which \$35,000,000 is authorized to be appro-  
4           priated for each fiscal year for the Office of Victims  
5           of Crime Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of  
6           Human Trafficking”.

7 **SEC. 202. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATIONS UNDER THE**  
8 **INTERNATIONAL MEGAN’S LAW.**

9           Section 11 of the International Megan’s Law to Pre-  
10          vent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through  
11          Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (34  
12          U.S.C. 21509) is amended by striking “2018 through  
13          2021” and inserting “2025 through 2029”.

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