

about what happens along the Potomac River, about what happens along the Colorado River, but I am also concerned about what is happening to the many who have just crossed the Rio Grande River.

When children are asked about whether they have been trafficked by a police officer, who may not speak their native language, in a rushed interview in what may be a chaotic situation in a detention center that is much like a police station, where someone who just abused them or who may actually have been involved in the trafficking and smuggling process is nearby and can perhaps overhear these tales, they will be reluctant to articulate the sexual trauma, the very private trauma to which they have been subjected.

These children who have been traumatized, in some cases, multiple times, who may well have left their native country because of abuse, deserve to be interviewed and evaluated in an environment that takes into consideration their youth, their vulnerability, all of the factors that we have been talking about on this piece of legislation, and the other six pieces of legislation that the House is about to approve.

These children deserve the same type of protections, not an intimidating environment that is made all the more unfamiliar to them by virtue of the fact that they are in a land that they have never been to before.

This special treatment does not occur and happen if you have an expedited screening process. That is why we unanimously passed the guarantees that are in the 2008 law. If we want to protect these children, we should abandon a plan to throw out these children by the wayside by abandoning those protections.

I believe that we shouldn't let our desire, the fears of some, perhaps the hate of others, to result in the quick deportation of children and return them to a life of sex slavery. They are vulnerable children. We don't assure them amnesty. Certainly, we cannot accept every child that wants to enter this country.

I am not in favor of amnesty, but I do think we need a little humanity, a little human decency, and that those children deserve the same respect and due process as any child that we are talking about tonight.

So I am pleased that we are making progress on this piece of legislation and another six bills. I think they are an important step forward in dealing with a serious international problem. But it is critical that this interest in bipartisan concern for the vulnerability of children extend to those children who are now in my home State, and about whom we will be talking in the few days that remain in this Congress, and that we apply the same kind of standard then as we are applying tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I will insert in the RECORD a list of the organizations in support of this legislation.

ORGANIZATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE PREVENTING SEX TRAFFICKING AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES ACT (H.R. 4980)

1. American Academy of Pediatrics (letter)
2. American Psychological Association (letter)
3. Association on American Indian Affairs (email)
4. Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (letter)
5. Cherokee Nation (letter)
6. Children Awaiting Parents (Senate)
7. Children's Defense Fund (letter)
8. Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption (letter)
9. Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (letter)
10. Eastern Shashone Tribe (letter)
11. First Focus Campaign for Children (letter)
12. Fort Belknap Child Support Program (letter)
13. Foster Club (letter)
14. Foster Family-Based Treatment Association (letter)
15. Generations United (letter)
16. Holt International (letter)
17. Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (letter)
18. Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
19. Love 146 (letter)
20. Menominee Tribal Child Support Agency (letter)
21. Mescalero Apache Tribe (letter)
22. Meskwaki Nation Child Support Services (letter)
23. National Adoption Center (letter)
24. National Child Support Enforcement Association (letter with concerns)
25. National Children's Alliance (letter)
26. National Foster Parent Association (letter)
27. National Indian Child Welfare Association (email)
28. Nebraska Families Collaborative (letter)
29. Nez Perce Tribe (letter)
30. North American Council on Adoptable Children (letter)
31. NYS Citizens' Coalition for Children (letter)
32. Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin (letter)
33. Oregon Post Adoption Resource Center (letter)
34. Penobscot Nation Child Support Agency (letter)
35. Red Cliff Tribal Child Support Services Agency (letter)
36. Rights4Girls (letter)
37. Stockbridge-Munsee Community (letter)
38. Suquamish Tribe (letter)
39. The Adoption Exchange (email)
40. The Attachment and Trauma Network (Senate)
41. The California Alliance of Child and Family Services (Senate)
42. The Child Welfare League of America (letter)
43. The Donaldson Adoption Institute (letter)
44. The National Crittenton Foundation (email)
45. Tribal Child Support Enforcement, Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma (letter)
46. Voice for Adoption (letter)
47. You Gotta Believe (letter)
48. Yurok Tribe (letter).

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, this legislation, as I said earlier, represents bipartisan, bicameral progress in protecting our Nation's most vulnerable children.

So, in plain language, the House of Representatives cooperated together

and developed a bill. The Senate cooperated together, Senators HATCH and WYDEN worked together to develop a bill on the Senate side. They agreed and passed a bill, we agreed and passed a bill.

This bill that we are talking about today is one of those rare moments in history where not only did Democrats and Republicans agree, but the Senate and the House agreed this was a good bill, and here it is today.

After we pass this bill tonight, it will move to the Senate, and we already know we have agreement there. It will be passed in the Senate, hopefully, some time early next week, and move on to the President's desk for signing.

We are focused tonight on this bill, with foster kids, because this is the jurisdiction that I have, as the chairman of the Human Resources Subcommittee, and that Mr. DOGGETT, as the ranking member, has too. We are focused on foster kids and human trafficking, and helping them find loving homes so they can have a productive life, so they can have hope, hope for the future.

We need to pass this bill tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. REICHERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4980.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2014

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5135) to direct the Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking to identify strategies to prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking and review trafficking prevention efforts, to protect and assist in the recovery of victims of trafficking, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5135

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Human Trafficking Prevention, Intervention, and Recovery Act of 2014".

SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE REPORT ON CHILD TRAFFICKING PRIMARY PREVENTION.

(a) REVIEW.—The Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, established under section 105 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103), shall conduct a review that, with regard to trafficking in persons in the United States—

(1) in consultation with nongovernmental organizations that the Task Force determines appropriate, surveys and catalogues

the activities of the Federal Government and State governments to deter individuals from committing trafficking offenses and to prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking;

(2) surveys academic literature on deterring individuals from committing trafficking offenses, preventing children from becoming victims of trafficking, the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and other similar topics that the Task Force determines appropriate;

(3) identifies best practices and effective strategies to deter individuals from committing trafficking offenses and to prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking; and

(4) identifies current gaps in research and data that would be helpful in formulating effective strategies to deter individuals from committing trafficking offenses and to prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking shall provide to Congress, and make publicly available in electronic format, a report on the review conducted pursuant to subparagraph (a).

SEC. 3. GAO REPORT ON INTERVENTION.

On the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report, which shall include—

(1) information on the efforts of Federal and select State law enforcement agencies to combat human trafficking in the United States; and

(2) information on each Federal grant program, a purpose of which is to combat human trafficking or assist victims of trafficking, as specified in an authorizing statute or in a guidance document issued by the agency carrying out the grant program.

SEC. 4. PROVISION OF HOUSING PERMITTED TO PROTECT AND ASSIST IN THE RECOVERY OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING.

Section 107(b)(2)(A) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, including programs that provide housing to victims of trafficking”.

SEC. 5. VICTIM OF TRAFFICKING DEFINED.

In this Act, the term and “victim of trafficking” has the meaning given such term in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 5135, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to speak in favor of H.R. 5135, the Human Trafficking Preven-

tion, Intervention, and Recovery Act of 2014, introduced by Representative KRISTI NOEM.

The crisis of human trafficking is ruinous to the lives of its victims, many of whom are drawn from the ranks of the most vulnerable in our society. This crisis has touched nearly every corner of the globe, and even exists here in the United States.

The Justice Department, and its many State and local partners, have made great strides to rescue children and other victims from the terrible crime of sex trafficking. Last month, the FBI announced a successful nationwide sting that led to the rescue of 168 children and the arrest of 281 pimps in more than 100 cities.

Also last month, the Justice Department seized a major Web site known for promoting illegal sex trafficking and indicted its owner. Both of these cases, and the many other trafficking cases that have been brought in recent years, show that law enforcement is making progress in the fight against child exploitation. But sadly, there remains more work to be done.

Studies suggest that over 290,000 youth are at risk of commercial sexual exploitation in the United States. To effectively combat human trafficking, we must cut it off at its root by trying to prevent the trafficking before it can occur.

H.R. 5135 requires the existing Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking to survey and catalog the methods being employed by our Federal and State governments to deter individuals from committing trafficking offenses and children from being victimized.

The bill also directs the task force to identify best practices and what gaps might exist, if any, in research and data so that we can place new and valuable tools in the hands of law enforcement.

One challenge that victims of sex trafficking often face is a lack of financial independence that keeps them trapped in a life of prostitution. H.R. 5135 helps to address that by clarifying that existing Federal trafficking grants may be used for programs that provide housing for victims of sex trafficking.

As I have said before, sex traffickers, and the buyers who enable them to stay in business, dehumanize their victims, treating them as objects to be used for the profit and pleasure of others, instead of human beings creating in the image of God.

In May of this year, the House passed a number of antitrafficking bills that originated in the House Judiciary Committee, which are all awaiting consideration by the Senate. I encourage my colleagues on the other side of the Capitol Hill to move swiftly to pass those bills.

I am pleased that we can consider another set of bipartisan antitrafficking bills here today. It is important that we do everything that we can to bring

an end to this illicit industry. H.R. 5135 will help us to do just that. I hope that this body will join with me and Congresswoman NOEM in supporting this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5135, the Human Trafficking Prevention, Intervention, and Recovery Act of 2014. This bill is vital to identifying best practices and effective strategies to deter individuals from committing trafficking offenses and to prevent children from becoming victims, and it, therefore, enjoys bipartisan support in the House.

This bill will encourage Federal, State, and local governments to work together as an Interagency Task Force to investigate and enforce the existing laws. This task force will emphasize prosecution of the purchasers of sex with children as child rapists. These purchasers are usually referred to as “johns” who pay for sex with children, but insofar as children cannot consent to sex, the johns are legally committing rape and should be prosecuted as rapists.

The bill encourages law enforcement coordination with intergovernment organizations and academics who will put into practice what research and data demonstrate will work to prevent these crimes.

The GAO will submit a report on how the Federal grant programs’ funds have been used to combat human trafficking or to assist victims of trafficking. An Interagency Task Force will submit a report to Congress on its findings.

The bill will also provide housing to protect and assist children in recovering victims of trafficking. To date, the number of victims, especially child victims, greatly exceeds the number of available shelter beds.

Without a safe place to stay, many rescued victims will end up running away and returning to their abusers due to the unique trauma bond that occurs in these cases.

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Along those lines, we must do more to rescue child victims and expand the services they need. Our country has a moral imperative to protect and help these children who are vulnerable, warrant special protection, and need these services, even in the best of circumstances.

This vulnerability is compounded amongst children who have been victims of sexual exploitation, physical violence, trauma, and extreme poverty. With our protection, support, and assistance, we can help them survive.

I commend my colleague from Virginia, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, for working to bring the bill to the floor, and I commend our colleague from South Dakota (Mrs. NOEM) for introducing the legislation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in prosecuting those who rape children, protecting and rescuing child victims, and providing the victims with the support that they need.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, at this time, it is my pleasure to yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Mrs. NOEM), the chief sponsor of the legislation.

Mrs. NOEM. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, over the past several years, my eyes have really been opened to the disturbing type of slavery that we have seen across the world and here at home.

I have heard about human trafficking before and young children being sold for sex overseas, but I guess I didn't really realize how much it was happening here in the United States and even in my home State of South Dakota. The more I learned about human trafficking and the risk that it posed to our kids, the more I became convicted that I needed to do something about it.

The average age of a child that is trafficked is just 11 to 14 years old. Many times, the trafficker will lure these children in, pretending to be their friend or their boyfriend, control them through the use of drugs or alcohol, and give them the comfort and stability that they may be lacking at home. After they have them isolated and dependent, they sell them for sex.

It is heartbreaking for me as a mom, as an aunt of many nieces and nephews, as a 4-H leader, and as a person who works with our youth every single day to think about the innocent children that are being forced into this disgusting industry and becoming slaves to these predators.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of children are at risk to being trafficked here in the United States, so this isn't a problem that is far away. It is a problem that is right here in our backyards.

Back in South Dakota, I held a lot of roundtables and a Justice Against Slavery Summit. I heard from local shelters, from law enforcement officers, tribal leaders, from victims and advocate groups and learned from their expertise.

I learned a lot about what was being done to stop human trafficking and what additional tools they needed from Congress and what we should pursue. While we talked about the problem, I wanted them to focus on what they needed for solutions. With the insight of all these community leaders, we identified ways we could rout out the disgusting industry and help victims recover.

That is why I am so proud to be here today to introduce H.R. 5135, the Human Trafficking Prevention, Intervention, and Recovery Act. This bipartisan bill was based on those conversations that I had during those roundtables and the summit that I held

in South Dakota on how best to prevent and combat human trafficking. The best way to stop human trafficking in its tracks is to prevent it.

My bill launches a task force review to look into Federal and State trafficking-prevention activities. The review will be in done in consultation with nongovernmental organizations, like those I heard from in South Dakota, and will work to identify and develop best practices to prevent trafficking.

Next, it requires an inventory to be done of existing antitrafficking efforts by the Federal Government. It is important to take a hard look at all of these programs across the Federal Government to ensure that Federal resources are targeted and that they are used where they are needed.

We can also identify any gaps in Federal programs that need to be filled, and finally, my bill improves existing Department of Justice grants and allows them to be used for shelters for survivors.

Did you know, nationwide, there is only about 200 beds available for underage victims of sex trafficking? Many of these kids, once they are rescued from their trafficker, have nowhere safe to go. They don't have any other option, and so often, what they are forced to do is to return to their trafficker.

Many who are in the foster care system don't have the family support that is necessary to be safe and to recover. Sadly, without a place to recover from the trauma that has happened in their lives, kids return back to those traffickers, and that is why it is important that we use Federal resources wisely to promote more facilities to help these recovering children.

I am proud to be standing here with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to take action on this bill today and the other bills that were brought to deal with sex trafficking. It is an issue that we can and we should all stand together on. Together, these bills will do more to prevent trafficking, give law enforcement more tools to deal with it, and help our victims recover.

I am grateful for my colleagues and to the leadership for making this a priority in the House. I urge my colleagues to support this package and continue our fight to end human trafficking.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK), who has also been a leader on this issue of combating sex trafficking.

Mrs. BLACK. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government reports that as many as 17,500 people are trafficked into our country annually. With the rise of the Internet, the number of sex trafficking incidents in particular has exploded. We must do what we can to combat this rising epidemic by identifying best practices in

combating trafficking, so that others can duplicate these successful models.

I am proud that in my home State of Tennessee, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has developed a card that would identify an algorithm of how law enforcement would interview those who potentially have been sex-trafficked, as well as on the back of the card, those kinds of resources that can be used to help those who are in this situation.

Systems like this must be identified, studied, and duplicated to combat trafficking, and I am proud to support this bill from Congresswoman NOEM, which would help to make this very important work successful.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I will continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, at this time, it is my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER).

Mr. CRAMER. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that my home State of North Dakota is enjoying the blessing of an energy boom, an economic boom, which is driven largely by an oil and gas renaissance that has us contributing now over 1 million barrels of oil per day toward America's energy security, but with the blessing of this energy boom comes some unwanted consequences, and chief among them is a growing demand for the product of human trafficking. It has caused the citizens of our clean and beautiful State to be somewhat alarmed and rightfully so.

Our local and State law enforcement agencies are stressed to the max. Our nonprofit and faith-based communities are doing all that they can to assist, and they are doing it with great effort, but they need some additional help and encouragement.

So this and the many other House bills that will be passed in the next couple of days dealing with this plague of human trafficking will provide the tools that, frankly, only the Federal Government can provide to assist—not replace, but assist local, State, and nonprofit agencies in this fight against the plague of human trafficking in our society.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this and the other bills before us.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I will continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, having no further requests for time, I am prepared to close.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to say to all that, as the chair of the Judiciary Committee, I appreciate the bipartisan work that has been done on many of these sex trafficking bills.

I appreciate especially the work of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr.

SCOTT), who is the ranking member on the Crime Subcommittee, and the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. CONYERS, as well. I commend the chairman of that subcommittee, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, as well as Congresswoman NOEM for their leadership on this issue.

Sex trafficking is a serious problem, and while we see it around the world, we should not overlook the fact that it is a serious problem right here in the United States.

This bill joins several others that we have already passed through the House of Representatives to address this serious problem, and it deserves the same bipartisan support that the others received, and it also deserves the consideration of the other side of the Capitol, by the other body which needs to take these bills up and pass them as well, so they can go to the President's desk and be signed into law.

This is truly a bipartisan effort to address a serious national problem, and we all need to join into the solution.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5135.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING DETECTION ACT OF 2014

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5116) to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to train Department of Homeland Security personnel how to effectively deter, detect, disrupt, and prevent human trafficking during the course of their primary roles and responsibilities, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5116

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Human Trafficking Detection Act of 2014".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term "Department" means the Department of Homeland Security.

(2) HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—The term "human trafficking" means an act or practice described in paragraph (9) or (10) of section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

SEC. 3. TRAINING FOR DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO IDENTIFY HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall implement a program to—

(1) train and periodically retrain relevant Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and other Department personnel that the Secretary considers appropriate, how to effectively deter, detect, and disrupt human trafficking, and, where appropriate, interdict a suspected perpetrator of human trafficking, during the course of their primary roles and responsibilities; and

(2) ensure that the personnel referred to in paragraph (1) regularly receive current information on matters related to the detection of human trafficking, including information that becomes available outside of the Department's initial or periodic retraining schedule, to the extent relevant to their official duties and consistent with applicable information and privacy laws.

(b) TRAINING DESCRIBED.—The training referred to in subsection (a) may be conducted through in-class or virtual learning capabilities, and shall include—

(1) methods for identifying suspected victims of human trafficking and, where appropriate, perpetrators of human trafficking;

(2) for appropriate personnel, methods to approach a suspected victim of human trafficking, where appropriate, in a manner that is sensitive to the suspected victim and is not likely to alert a suspected perpetrator of human trafficking;

(3) training that is most appropriate for a particular location or environment in which the personnel receiving such training perform their official duties;

(4) other topics determined by the Secretary to be appropriate; and

(5) a post-training evaluation for personnel receiving the training.

(c) TRAINING CURRICULUM REVIEW.—The Secretary shall annually reassess the training program established under subsection (a) to ensure it is consistent with current techniques, patterns, and trends associated with human trafficking.

SEC. 4. CERTIFICATION AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall certify to the appropriate congressional committees that all personnel referred to in section 3(a) have successfully completed the training required under that section.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall report to the appropriate congressional committees the overall effectiveness of the program required by this Act, the number of cases reported by Department personnel in which human trafficking was suspected and, of those cases, the number of cases that were confirmed cases of such trafficking.

SEC. 5. ASSISTANCE TO NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES.

The Secretary may provide training curricula to any State, local, or tribal government or private organization to assist such entity in establishing its program of training to identify human trafficking, upon request from such entity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Indiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their re-

marks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5116, the Human Trafficking Detection Act of 2014, sponsored by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS).

This bill requires the Department of Homeland Security to implement a human trafficking awareness training program for Customs and Border Protection, Transportation Security Administration, and other DHS personnel which is tailored to their professional roles and responsibilities.

Additionally, it directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to annually assess and update training, as needed, based on current human trafficking trends and then report to Congress on the number of suspected and confirmed trafficking cases reported by DHS officials.

Lastly, it authorizes DHS to provide training curricula to non-Federal entities that request assistance in setting up their own programs. The Committee on Homeland Security expects that this bill will primarily codify already existing training programs within the Department, thereby having little or no implementation costs.

Mr. Speaker, DHS plays a critical role in combating human trafficking which has, unfortunately, become one of the most profitable forms of transnational crime in the world, amounting to a \$32 billion per year industry.

Trafficked individuals are often forced into prostitution and labor, and an estimated 100,000 U.S. children are victims of trafficking each year. This modern-day form of slavery is a heinous stain on our society.

Moreover, CBP personnel are often the first to come into contact with unaccompanied minors crossing the border, which we are seeing on a daily basis now. It has become a significant humanitarian crisis that must be addressed.

While these children are crossing under a variety of circumstances, it is imperative that DHS personnel encountering them are adequately trained to detect potential victims of trafficking and respond most appropriately.

As a member of the Committee on Homeland Security and chair of the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, I believe it is critical that we continue to equip Department of Homeland Security personnel with up-to-date training and the tools to detect and counter this growing challenge, including Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, employees and others who often are working on the front lines with local communities, and