

those who could not speak for themselves.

Advancing this bill will help her legacy live on by ensuring justice for all survivors.

S. 3815

*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 “Virginia’s Law”.

**SEC. 2. CIVIL REMEDIES.**

(a) SEXUAL ABUSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 109A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 2249. Civil remedy

“(a) An individual who is a victim of a violation of this chapter may bring a civil action against the perpetrator (or whoever knowingly benefits, or attempts or conspires to benefit, financially or by receiving anything of value from participation in a venture which that person knew or should have known has engaged in an act in violation of this chapter) in any district court of the United States that has jurisdiction to hear a criminal prosecution arising out of the same conduct or occurrence and may recover damages and reasonable attorneys fees.

“(b)(1) Any civil action filed under subsection (a) shall be stayed during the pendency of any criminal action arising out of the same occurrence in which the claimant is the victim.

“(2) In this subsection, the term ‘criminal action’ includes investigation and prosecution and is pending until final adjudication in the trial court.

“(c)(1) Subject to paragraph (2), no action may be maintained under subsection (a) unless it is commenced not later than the later of—

“(A) 10 years after the cause of action arose; or

“(B) 10 years after the victim reaches 18 years of age, if the victim was a minor at the time of the alleged offense.

“(2) There shall be no time limit for the filing of a complaint commencing an action under this section relating to an alleged violation of section 2241, 2242, or 2243.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 109A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“2249. Civil remedy.”.

(b) TRANSPORTATION FOR ILLEGAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY AND RELATED CRIMES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 117 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 2430. Civil remedy

“(a) An individual who is a victim of a violation of this chapter may bring a civil action against the perpetrator (or whoever knowingly benefits, or attempts or conspires to benefit, financially or by receiving anything of value from participation in a venture which that person knew or should have known has engaged in an act in violation of this chapter) in any district court of the United States that has jurisdiction to hear a criminal prosecution arising out of the same conduct or occurrence and may recover damages and reasonable attorneys fees.

“(b)(1) Any civil action filed under subsection (a) shall be stayed during the pendency of any criminal action arising out of the same occurrence in which the claimant is the victim.

“(2) For purposes of this subsection, a ‘criminal action’—

“(A) includes investigation and prosecution; and

“(B) is pending until final adjudication in the trial court.

“(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no action may be maintained under subsection (a) unless it is commenced not later than the later of—

“(A) 10 years after the cause of action arose; or

“(B) 10 years after the victim reaches 18 years of age, if the victim was a minor at the time of the alleged offense.

“(2) There shall be no time limit for the filing of a complaint commencing an action under this section relating to an alleged violation of section 2421, 2422, or 2423.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 117 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“2430. Civil remedy.”.

**SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.**

Section 1595 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “an appropriate district court of the United States” and inserting “any district court of the United States that has jurisdiction to hear a criminal prosecution arising out of the same conduct or occurrence”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, by striking “(c) No action” and inserting the following:

“(c)(1) Subject to paragraph (2), no action”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) There shall be no time limit for the filing of a complaint commencing an action under this section relating to an alleged violation of section 1589, 1590, or 1591.”.

**SEC. 4. APPLICABILITY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall apply to—

(1) any claim or action that, as of the date of enactment of this Act, would not have been barred under section 1595(c) of title 18, United States Code, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) any claim or action arising on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) 1-YEAR LOOK BACK PERIOD.—

(1) COVERED ACTION DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “covered action”—

(A) means—

(i) a civil action that could have been brought on the day before the date of enactment of this Act under section 2249 or 2430 of title 18, United States Code, as added by this Act, if that section had been in effect on that day; and

(ii) a civil action under section 1595 of title 18, United States Code, relating to an alleged violation of section 1589, 1590, or 1591 of that title that was barred under section 1595(c) of that title as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) includes a civil action described in subparagraph (A)(ii) that was dismissed before the date of enactment of this Act on the basis of the time limit imposed on commencing an action under section 1595(c) of title 18, United States Code, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) FILING PERIOD.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a covered action may be commenced during the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 603—SUPPORTING THE OBSERVATION OF NATIONAL TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY PREVENTION MONTH DURING THE PERIOD BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2026, AND ENDING ON FEBRUARY 1, 2026, TO RAISE AWARENESS OF, AND OPPOSITION TO, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HUSTED, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 603

Whereas the United States abolished the transatlantic slave trade in 1808, and abolished chattel slavery and prohibited involuntary servitude in 1865;

Whereas, because the people of the United States remain committed to protecting individual freedom, there is a national imperative to eliminate human trafficking and modern slavery, which is commonly considered to mean—

(1) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of an individual through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjecting that individual to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery; or

(2) the inducement of a commercial sex act by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the individual induced to perform that act is younger than 18 years of age;

Whereas forced labor and human trafficking generates revenues of at least \$150,000,000,000 annually worldwide, and there are an estimated 50,000,000 victims of human trafficking and modern slavery across the globe;

Whereas victims of human trafficking are difficult to identify and are subject to manipulation, force, fraud, coercion, and abuse;

Whereas children and youths experiencing homelessness are particularly vulnerable and susceptible to manipulation, making them a prime target for the lucrative criminal industry of human trafficking;

Whereas the Department of Justice has reported that human trafficking and modern slavery have been reported and investigated in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia;

Whereas the Department of State has reported that the top 3 countries of origin of federally-identified human trafficking victims in the United States in fiscal year 2024 were Honduras, Mexico, and Guatemala;

Whereas, to help businesses in the United States combat child labor and forced labor in global supply chains, the Department of Labor has identified 204 goods from 82 countries that are made by child labor and forced labor;

Whereas, since 2007, the National Human Trafficking Hotline has identified 112,822 instances of human trafficking involving 218,568 victims;

Whereas there are known risk factors that contribute to youths running away, including domestic violence, child sexual abuse, and neglect, and runaway youths who experience homelessness are potential targets for human trafficking;

Whereas, in the first 6 months of 2025, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received over 62,891 reports of possible child sex trafficking;

Whereas, in the first 6 months of 2025, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received over 440,419 reports of generative artificial intelligence related to on-line child sexual exploitation;

Whereas today, the average age of child sex trafficking victims reported missing to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is only 15 years old;

Whereas, in the first 6 months of 2025, following the enactment of the REPORT Act (Public Law 118-59; 138 Stat. 1014), the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received 62,891 reports of child sex trafficking, up from 5,976 over the same time period in 2024;

Whereas youth experiencing homelessness experience high rates of human trafficking, and 1 in 5 homeless youths is a victim of sex trafficking, labor trafficking, or both;

Whereas 22 percent of youths who experience homelessness were approached for paid sex on their first night of homelessness;

Whereas LGBTQ youth are at higher risk of becoming sex trafficking victims than their peers;

Whereas youths facing homelessness have a lower probability of being trafficked if they have a supportive adult in their life;

Whereas the Administration for Native Americans of the Department of Health and Human Services reports that American Indian, Alaska Native, and Pacific Islander women and girls have a heightened risk for sex trafficking;

Whereas the Department of Justice found that studies on the topic of human trafficking of American Indians and Alaska Natives suggest there are—

(1) high rates of sexual exploitation of Native women and girls;

(2) gaps in data and research on trafficking of American Indian and Alaska Native victims; and

(3) barriers that prevent law enforcement agencies and victim service providers from identifying and responding appropriately to Native victims;

Whereas, according to the Government Accountability Office, from fiscal year 2013 through fiscal year 2016, there were only 14 Federal investigations and 2 Federal prosecutions of human trafficking offenses in Indian country;

Whereas, to combat human trafficking and modern slavery in the United States and globally, the people of the United States, the Federal Government, and State, Tribal, and local governments must be—

(1) aware of the realities of human trafficking and modern slavery; and

(2) dedicated to stopping the horrific enterprises of human trafficking and modern slavery;

Whereas the United States should hold accountable all individuals, groups, organizations, governments, and countries that support, advance, or commit acts of human trafficking and modern slavery;

Whereas, through education, the United States must also work to end human trafficking and modern slavery in all forms in the United States and around the world;

Whereas victims of human trafficking deserve a trauma-informed approach that integrates the pursuit of justice and provision of social services designed to help them escape, and recover from, the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual trauma they endured;

Whereas combating human trafficking requires a whole-of-government effort that rests on a unified and coordinated response among Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies and that places equal value on the prevention of trafficking, the identification and stabilization of victims, and the investigation and prosecution of traffickers;

Whereas laws to prosecute perpetrators of human trafficking and to assist and protect victims of human trafficking and modern slavery have been enacted in the United States, including—

(1) the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.);

(2) title XII of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4; 127 Stat. 136);

(3) the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-22; 129 Stat. 227);

(4) sections 910 and 914(e) of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-125; 130 Stat. 239, 274);

(5) section 1298 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (22 U.S.C. 7114);

(6) the Abolish Human Trafficking Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-392; 132 Stat. 5250);

(7) the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-393; 132 Stat. 5265);

(8) the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-425; 132 Stat. 5472);

(9) the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-427; 132 Stat. 5503);

(10) the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-103; 136 Stat. 840);

(11) the Abolish Trafficking Reauthorization Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-347; 136 Stat. 6199);

(12) the Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-348; 136 Stat. 6211); and

(13) the End Human Trafficking in Government Contracts Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-211; 136 Stat. 2248);

Whereas the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-22; 129 Stat. 227) established the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking to provide a formal platform for survivors of human trafficking to advise and make recommendations on Federal anti-trafficking policies to the Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking established by the President;

Whereas the Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration issued a final rule entitled “Federal Acquisition Regulation; Ending Trafficking in Persons” (80 Fed. Reg. 4967 (January 29, 2015)) to implement Executive Order 13627 (41 U.S.C. 3101 note; relating to strengthening protections against trafficking in persons in Federal contracts), which clarifies the policy of the United States on combating trafficking in persons as outlined in the Federal Acquisition Regulation by strengthening the prohibition on contractors from charging employee recruitment fees;

Whereas, although such laws and regulations are currently in force, it is essential to increase public awareness, particularly among individuals who are most likely to come into contact with victims of human trafficking and modern slavery, regarding conditions and dynamics of human trafficking and modern slavery, precisely because traffickers use techniques that are designed to severely limit self-reporting and evade law enforcement;

Whereas January 1 is the anniversary of the effective date of the Emancipation Proclamation;

Whereas February 1 is—

(1) the anniversary of the date on which President Abraham Lincoln signed the joint resolution sending the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States to the States for ratification to forever declare, “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof

the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction”; and

(2) a date that has long been celebrated as National Freedom Day, as described in section 124 of title 36, United States Code; and

Whereas, under the authority of Congress to enforce the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States “by appropriate legislation”, Congress, through the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), updated the post-Civil War involuntary servitude and slavery statutes and adopted an approach of victim protection, vigorous prosecution, and prevention of human trafficking, commonly known as the “3P” approach: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports—

(1) observing National Trafficking and Modern Slavery Prevention Month during the period beginning on January 1, 2026, and ending on February 1, 2026, to recognize the vital role that the people of the United States have in ending human trafficking and modern slavery;

(2) marking the observation of National Trafficking and Modern Slavery Prevention Month with appropriate programs and activities, culminating in the observance on February 1, 2026, of National Freedom Day, as described in section 124 of title 36, United States Code;

(3) urging continued partnerships with Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies, as well as survivors of human trafficking, social service providers, and nonprofit organizations to address human trafficking with a collaborative, victim-centered approach; and

(4) all other efforts to prevent, eradicate, and raise awareness of, and opposition to, human trafficking and modern slavery.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

#### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 4:30 p.m., to conduct a classified briefing.

#### COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session