

2025 Policy Priorities

Enhancing our laws to promote meaningful change for victims and survivors.

PROSECUTION of Human Traffickers.

- **Strengthen the prosecution of sex buyers, facilitators and traffickers by simplifying Chapter 30 of the crimes code.**
 - **Repeal § 3013: Patronizing a victim of Sexual Servitude.**
On February 12, 2024, the act “patronizes” was added to § 3011 rendering this section obsolete.
 - **Streamline § 5902: Prostitution and related offenses.**
Move all trafficking related sections to Chapter 30, creating 3 new sections: § 3027 Promoting prostitution, § 3028 Living off a person in prostitution, and § 3029 Engaging a person for prostitution.
 - Remove grading increase for persons in prostitution.
- **Remove the defense for lack of knowledge of the victim's age completely from § 3018.**

PREVENTION of Human Trafficking.

- **Call for appropriations:** the General Assembly must appropriate funds to roll out a state-wide public awareness campaign, including the **anti-demand campaign** referred to in § 3064(a)(4)(ii), the Safe Harbor for Sexually Exploited Children Fund.
- **Consolidate funds:** combine the funds enumerated in § 3031 and § 3064 into one fund to be managed by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

PROTECTION of Victims and Survivors.

- Provide meaningful protections for victims and survivors by **expanding vacatur and affirmative defense remedies** in § 3019.
 - **Expand vacatur** so that victims are eligible to vacate any offense committed as a result of being a victim of human trafficking.
 - **Expand the Affirmative Defense** to apply to all crimes a victim may commit as a direct result of human trafficking, not just prostitution.
- Amend § 3020 so that victims are eligible to receive restitution by removing the caveat for expected earnings from illegal activity. **Sex trafficking victims are not culpable for crimes their traffickers force them to commit.**