



2023 Policy Priorities

1.

Expand Post Conviction Relief for Victims of Human Trafficking

- Reintroduce 2021 Senate Bill 1009 “Expanding Post Conviction Relief for Victims of Human Trafficking”
- Increase the number of human trafficking survivors eligible for the criminal record clearing relief of vacatur
- Increase vacatur eligible offenses to include retail theft, theft by deception, and contempt
- Change the requirement of Consent by the District Attorney to a Notice requirement

Modernize Pennsylvania’s Prostitution and Trafficking Statutes

2.

- Reintroduce 2021 House Bill 1835 “Eliminating Recidivism Penalties for Non-Violent Crimes of Prostitution”
- Modernize prostitution and human trafficking statute language to be more accurate and victim centered
- Add “patronizing” to the list of acts that qualify as trafficking and remove the offense of “patronizing a victim of sexual servitude” (18 Pa.C.S. § 3013)
- Disaggregate the prostitution statute moving all crimes except the sale of sex (18 Pa.C.S. § 5902(a)) to Chapter 30

3.

Second Look Legislation for Victims of Interpersonal Violence

- Enable victims of interpersonal violence who have been sentenced to long periods of incarceration to apply for re-sentencing after serving 15 years
- Allow judges to consider whether the original sentence fulfills the goals of sentencing or whether a new sentence would be more appropriate
- Acknowledge issues that were not considered at the time of sentencing because society did not yet recognize their importance

Address Illicit Massage Businesses through Regulation

4.

- Reintroduce 2022 House Bill 2899 “Eliminating Illicit Massage Businesses”
- Require both a valid manager’s license and valid bodywork facility license with the application transmitted to the Pennsylvania State Police, the Department of Human Services, and the FBI for review and criminal history check
- Require facilities maintain a comprehensive service log tracking customer, service provider, type of service, and other details
- Ensure that if a bodywork facility is operating illicitly, victims will be provided information and services through the Office of Victims’ Services and Crime Victims Act

5.

Address Survivors Driver’s License Concerns

- Urge Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to reinstate driver’s licenses of survivors whose convictions have been vacated
- Create a mechanism to provide relief to survivors of commercial sexual exploitation facing driving consequences due to their victimization

