

POLICY GOAL 5.2 State law provides child sex trafficking victims with alternatives to live, in-court testimony regardless of the prosecuted offense.

State ¹	Does state law allow commercially sexually exploited children to testify by an alternative method?	Available protection(s)	Limitations (if any)
Alabama	Yes	CCTV; video depositions	Under 16 for certain offenses
Alaska	No	N/A	N/A
Arizona	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 15 for CCTV or recording
Arkansas	Yes	CCTV	Under 13 only
California	Yes	CCTV	Under 16 for trafficking; under 14 for sexual offenses
Colorado	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 12 for CCTV; under 15 for recording
Connecticut	Yes	CCTV	Under 13 only
Delaware	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 12 for recording (any age for CCTV)
District of Columbia	No	N/A	N/A
Florida	Yes	CCTV; recording	None
Georgia	Yes	CCTV	Under 17 only; pimping or another specified offense only (does not apply to all victims of child sex trafficking)
Hawaii	Yes	CCTV	Abuse offense or sexual offense only
Idaho	Yes	Alternative method ²	Under 13 only
Illinois	No	N/A	N/A

¹ Evaluations of state laws are based on legislation enacted as of July 1, 2023. Responses do not include an analysis of case law, agency rules, regulations, or practices/initiatives that exist outside of statutory law. For more information on the importance of this policy goal, please visit <https://reportcards.sharedhope.org/related-resources/#5.2>.

² Idaho Code Ann. § 9-1802(1) (Definitions) defines “alternative method” as follows:

- A method by which a child witness testifies which does not include all of the following:
- (a) Having the child present in person in an open forum;
 - (b) Having the child testify in the presence and full view of the finder of fact and presiding officer; and
 - (c) Allowing all of the parties to be present, to participate and to view and be viewed by the child.

State ¹	Does state law allow commercially sexually exploited children to testify by an alternative method?	Available protection(s)	Limitations (if any)
Indiana	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 14 only; trafficking or another specified offense only (CSEC not included)
Iowa	Yes	CCTV; recording	None
Kansas	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 13 only
Kentucky	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 13 only
Louisiana	Yes	CCTV	Under 17 only
Maine	No	N/A	N/A
Maryland	No	N/A	N/A
Massachusetts	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 15 only
Michigan	No	N/A	N/A
Minnesota	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 12 only; trafficking or another specified offense only (CSEC not included)
Mississippi	Yes	CCTV	Under 16 only; sexual offense only (does not expressly apply in trafficking cases)
Missouri	Yes	Recording	Trafficking or another specified offense only (the majority of Missouri's CSEC offenses are not included)
Montana	Yes	CCTV	Under 14 only; enumerated sexual or violent offenses only (includes child sex trafficking offenses)
Nebraska	Yes	Recording	Under 12 only
Nevada	Yes	Recording; other alternative method ³	Under 14 for recording generally (any age for trafficking); under 14 for other alternative method
New Hampshire	Yes	Recording	Under 17 only
New Jersey	Yes	CCTV	Trafficking or another specified offense only (CSEC not included)
New Mexico	Yes	Recording	Under 16 only
New York	No	N/A	N/A
North Carolina	Yes	CCTV	Under 16 only
North Dakota	No	N/A	N/A

³ Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 50.520 (“Alternative method” defined) defines “alternative method” as follows:

“Alternative method” means a method by which a child witness testifies which does not include all of the following:

1. Having the child testify in person in an open forum;
2. Having the child testify in the presence and full view of the finder of fact and presiding officer; and
3. Allowing all of the parties to be present, to participate and to view and be viewed by the child

State ¹	Does state law allow commercially sexually exploited children to testify by an alternative method?	Available protection(s)	Limitations (if any)
Ohio	Yes	CCTV; recording	None
Oklahoma	Yes	Alternative method ⁴	None
Oregon	Yes	CCTV	Under 12 only
Pennsylvania	Yes	CCTV; recording	None
Rhode Island	Yes	CCTV; recording	Sexual assault only (trafficking and most CSEC offenses are not included)
South Carolina	No	N/A	N/A
South Dakota	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 16 only
Tennessee	Yes	CCTV	None
Texas	Yes	Recording	Under 13 only
Utah	Yes	CCTV; recording	Under 14 only; sexual offenses only (trafficking and most CSEC offenses are not included)
Vermont	No	N/A	N/A
Virginia	Yes	CCTV	Under 15 at time of offense and under 17 at time of the trial
Washington	Yes	CCTV	Under 14 only
West Virginia	No	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	Yes	CCTV	Under 12 (or under 16 if the interest of justice so requires)
Wyoming	No	N/A	N/A
Totals:	39 states allow commercially sexually exploited children to testify by an alternative method.		

⁴ Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 12, § 2611.4(1) defines “alternative method” as follows:

- [A] method by which a child witness testifies which does not include all of the following:
- a. having the child testify in person in an open forum,
 - b. having the child testify in the presence and full view of the finder of fact and presiding officer, and
 - c. allowing all of the parties to be present, to participate, and to view and be viewed by the child.