

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



ISSUE 1: REMOVING DEFINITIONAL BARRIERS TO IDENTIFICATION

1. State law should ensure any commercially sexually exploited child can be legally identified as a “child sex trafficking victim.”



ISSUE 2: PREVENTING UNJUST CRIMINALIZATION

2. State law should prohibit the criminalization of minors under 18 for prostitution offenses.
3. State law should prohibit the criminalization of child sex trafficking victims for status offenses, misdemeanors, and felony offenses committed as a result of their trafficking victimization.
4. State law should protect minors from being prosecuted as adults..



ISSUE 3: ADDRESSING COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINALIZATION

5. State law should eliminate mandatory minimum sentences for all offenses committed by minors.
6. State law should provide child sex trafficking survivors with an opportunity to seek relief from continued incarceration for crimes committed as a result of their victimization.
7. State law should allow sex trafficked children and youth to vacate convictions for any offenses arising from their victimization.



ISSUE 4: PROVIDING CRITICAL SUPPORTS TO SURVIVORS

8. State law should establish a coordinated, community-based service response for trafficked children without requiring involvement in child-serving systems.
9. State funding should be appropriated to support access to specialized, community-based service providers and a continuum of care for sex trafficked children.
10. State law governing crime victims’ compensation should ensure victims of child sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) are not prevented from accessing compensation due to ineligibility factors.

