

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 500

To establish the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking to review Federal Government policy on human trafficking.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 22, 2015

Mr. HONDA (for himself, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. BASS, and Ms. LEE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking to review Federal Government policy on human trafficking.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Survivors of Human
5 Trafficking Empowerment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. UNITED STATES ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HUMAN**
2 **TRAFFICKING.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the
4 United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking
5 (referred to in this section as the “Council”), which shall
6 provide advice and recommendations to the Senior Policy
7 Operating Group (referred to in this section as the
8 “Group”) established under section 105(g) of the Victims
9 of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22
10 U.S.C. 7103(g)) and the President’s Interagency Task
11 Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking established
12 under section 105(a) of that Act (22 U.S.C. 7103(a)) (re-
13 ferred to in this section as the “Task Force”).

14 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

15 (1) COMPOSITION.—The Council shall be com-
16 posed of not fewer than 8 and not more than 14 in-
17 dividuals who are—

18 (A) survivors of human trafficking; or

19 (B) nongovernmental experts or profes-
20 sionals in the human trafficking field.

21 (2) REPRESENTATION OF SURVIVORS.—To the
22 extent practicable, not less than 50 percent of mem-
23 bers of the Council shall be survivors of trafficking,
24 who shall accurately reflect the diverse backgrounds
25 of survivors of trafficking, including—

1 (A) survivors of sex trafficking and sur-
2 vivors of labor trafficking; and

3 (B) survivors who are United States citi-
4 zens and survivors who are aliens lawfully
5 present in the United States.

6 (3) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 180 days
7 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
8 President shall appoint the members of the Council.

9 (4) TERM; REAPPOINTMENT.—Council members
10 shall serve for terms of 2 years and may be re-
11 appointed by the President to serve additional 2-year
12 terms.

13 (c) FUNCTIONS.—The Council shall—

14 (1) be a nongovernmental advisory body to the
15 Group;

16 (2) meet, at its own discretion, or at the re-
17 quest of the Group, not less frequently than annu-
18 ally to review Federal Government policy and pro-
19 grams intended to combat human trafficking, includ-
20 ing programs related to the provision of services for
21 victims, and serve as a point of contact for Federal
22 agencies reaching out to human trafficking survivors
23 for input on programming and policies relating to
24 human trafficking in the United States;

1 (3) formulate assessments and recommenda-
2 tions to ensure that United States policy and pro-
3 gramming efforts conform, to the extent practicable,
4 to the best practices in the field of human traf-
5 ficking prevention; and

6 (4) meet with the Group not less frequently
7 than annually and not later than 45 days before the
8 next meeting of the Task Force to formally present
9 the Council's findings and recommendations.

10 (d) REPORTS.—Every year beginning after the date
11 of the enactment of this Act, the Council shall submit a
12 report that contains the findings derived from the reviews
13 conducted pursuant to subsection (c)(2) to—

14 (1) the chair of the Task Force;

15 (2) the members of the Group; and

16 (3) the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Home-
17 land Security, Appropriations, and the Judiciary of
18 the House of Representatives, and the Committees
19 on Foreign Relations, Appropriations, Homeland Se-
20 curity and Governmental Affairs, and the Judiciary
21 of the Senate.

22 (e) EMPLOYEE STATUS.—Members of the Council—

23 (1) shall not be considered employees of the
24 United States Government for any purpose; and

1 (2) shall not receive compensation other than
2 reimbursement of travel expenses and per diem al-
3 lowance in accordance with section 5703 of title 5,
4 United States Code.

5 (f) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Council
6 shall not be subject to the requirements under the Federal
7 Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

8 **SEC. 3. SUNSET.**

9 This Act shall cease to be effective on September 30,
10 2021.

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