



NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
FOR WOMEN
NEW YORK CITY

MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

END THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR SEX TRAFFICKING IN NEW YORK STATE

[A.2575 Dinowitz](#) / [S.116 Cleare](#)

This bill eliminates the five-year statute of limitations on sex trafficking and child sex trafficking and introduces a one-year lookback window to file a civil cause of action.

The New York Legislature has consistently recognized that sex trafficking is a pervasive and heinous crime occurring statewide, requiring proactive measures to identify, curtail, and prosecute. Over the years, lawmakers have enacted a series of laws to build a robust infrastructure to combat human trafficking, disrupt the sex trade where trafficking thrives, and hold those who violate the human rights of marginalized individuals accountable. Legislators have also secured vital resources for law enforcement investigations, public education, emergency shelters, and victim services, transforming New York's response to these crimes.

The continual flow of state and federal cases has further exposed the callous and brutal tactics of third-party profiteers who exploit vulnerable individuals through threats, blackmail, deception, and violence to force them into prostitution and the sex trade.

This bill is critical to protecting survivors of human trafficking and ensuring accountability for those who exploit them for profit. The trauma, fear, and stigma associated with being bought and sold in prostitution and enduring abuse and threats from traffickers often result in significant delays in reporting these crimes. Survivors need adequate time and legal avenues to seek justice and recover from the profound psychological and physical impacts of their experiences.

New York has already eliminated the statute of limitations for first-degree rape and expanded the timeframe for survivors of sexual abuse to file civil suits through the Child Victims Act and the Adult Survivors Act. This bill builds on that progress by extending similar protections to survivors of sex trafficking, addressing a critical gap in the legal system.

New York does **not** currently grant sex trafficking survivors with the same protections as rape survivors. **It's time to change that.**

Advocacy and Service Provider Organizations Who Support Repealing the Statute of Limitations on Sex Trafficking:

- All Voices International, Malone, New York
- Brightstar Community, Monroe, New York
- Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW)
- Connecting Communities in Action of Catt County
- Covenant House
- ECLI-VIBES-Islandia, Long Island, New York
- Freedom Youth Family Justice Center, Bronx, New York
- The Justice & Care for Creation Committee of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Rochester, New York
- Joyful Heart Foundation
- Lifeway Network
- Mentari
- Mona's House, Buffalo, New York
- Mujeres en Resistencia New York/New Jersey
- National Organization for Women – New York
- New Yorkers for the Equality Model
- New York State Anti-Trafficking Coalition
- North County Human Trafficking Task Force
- Protect All Children from Trafficking (PACT)
- Restore NYC
- Rights4Girls
- Rochester Regional Coalition Against Human Trafficking
- Safe Horizon
- Safe Inc., Schenectady, New York
- Sanctuary for Families
- Stop Abuse Campaign, The Bronx, New York
- The Exodus Road
- Volunteer Lawyers Project of CNY, Syracuse, New York
- Women's Bar Association of New York
- Women Creating Change New York
- Women's Equal Justice Project
- Women's Justice NOW
- World Without Exploitation