

As prime author of the landmark Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), it is an honor to present the new Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act.

This bipartisan bill—and thank you Karen Bass for your cosponsorship and strong support—is a comprehensive, reauthorization and expansion of key elements of the TVPA and related policies.

In the fight to end modern day slavery, my new bill honors the extraordinary legacy of one of the greatest Americans who ever lived.

Born a slave in 1818—we celebrated the 200th anniversary of his birth this year—Frederick Douglass escaped slavery when he was 20 and dedicated his entire life to abolishing slavery and after emancipation, to ending Jim Crow laws, all while struggling for full equality. A gifted orator, author, editor, statesman (and Republican), he died in 1895.

The Frederick Douglass bill before us today authorizes over \$430 million over 4 years to prevent human trafficking, protect victims, and beef up prosecution of those involved in this nefarious trade both at home and abroad. It provides:

- \$18 million over three years to the Departments of Homeland Security, Justice, and State to fund the International Megan’s Law

- \$78 million over four years to the Department of Health and Human Services
- \$20 million over four years to the Department of Labor
- \$315 million over four years to the Department of State
- Additional funding to train airport personnel, flight attendants, and pilots to recognize and report to law enforcement potential trafficking victims in transit

Specifically, the new bill significantly expands our efforts to combat trafficking by:

- Ensuring vulnerable children, throughout the United States, are educated to avoid traffickers;
- Preferring in government travel contracts airlines that have in place anti-trafficking training and reporting policies for their employees;
- Keeping goods made by child trafficking victims out of the United States by ensuring funding for and enhancing Department of Labor reports on slave-made goods;
- Encouraging enforcement of the Tariff Act of 1930's prohibition on the importation of goods made with forced labor;
- Designating one prosecutor in each of the Department of Justice's focus districts to investigate and prosecute labor trafficking cases;

- Preventing abuse of domestic servants in embassies and diplomatic homes in the United States;
- Encouraging credible and effective use of the trafficking tier ranking system by the U.S. Department of State in the annual [*Trafficking in Persons Report*](#);
- Strengthening implementation of all U.S. laws and regulations in place to prevent U.S. government purchases from putting money in the hands of traffickers and encouraging accountability for US government contractors involved in human trafficking;
- Empowering trafficking survivors to be more involved in the development of human trafficking policy;
- Integrating the fight against human trafficking into U.S. foreign assistance more fully; and
- Ensuring that the National Human Trafficking Hotline is fully funded so that it can be a lifeline to domestic and foreign trafficking victims in the United States.