

Dear Chairman Jordan, Ranking Member Nadler, and esteemed members of the House Judiciary,

We, the members of the PACT Survivors' Council, write to express our opposition to H.R. 2601, The National Human Trafficking Enhancement Act.

PACT (Protect All Children from Trafficking) is the leading organization dedicated to protecting every child's right to grow up free from sexual exploitation and trafficking through advocacy, private sector engagement, and education. The mission of the PACT Survivors' Council is to ensure that the voices of survivors are heard, valued, and acted upon. We work to advance PACT's mission and make a difference in the lives of those who cannot yet speak for themselves because of sexual exploitation and trafficking.

H.R. 2601 will require the National Human Trafficking Hotline ("Hotline") to share information with any state and local law enforcement agency upon their request without the consent of the survivors who call the Hotline for help. Even with the proposed amendments, H.R. 2601 takes away the ability of survivors to decide whether contacting law enforcement is the best decision for them. *Choice and self-determination* are the first things traffickers and abusers steal from us, and it should be the first thing we empower survivors to take back.

Automatically involving law enforcement without survivor consent will disproportionately harm the communities the Hotline intends to serve. Many survivors told us that they will stop contacting the Hotline out of fear that law enforcement will be notified. Survivor leaders, including members of the PACT Survivors' Council) will no longer feel secure in recommending it to others seeking trustworthy guidance. We would be losing a vital lifeline to assistance and the ability to regain independence over our lives. *Cooperation with law enforcement entities should be a victim's right, not a requirement.*

Therefore, we ask that you please stand with Survivors and oppose H.R. 2601.

Thank you,

PACT Survivors' Council

Our Mission

Protect every child's right to grow up free from sexual exploitation and trafficking through legislative advocacy, education, and partnerships.

Contact Us

718.935.9192

WeArePACT.org