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ALABAMA

2023 Report Card

TIER II

GRADES ARE BASED SOLELY ON AN ANALYSIS OF STATE STATUTES. While we recognize the critical importance of non-legislative responses to propel progress, grading on statutory law provides a clear mechanism for evaluating policy goals across all states while ensuring that survivor-centered reforms are an enduring part of states' responses.

STATE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Between 2021-2023, raised score by 14 points.
- One of only 9 states to achieve full credit for its criminal provisions.
- Buyers of sex with children can be prosecuted for child sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation offenses.
- Business entities can be held criminally liable for conduct amounting to human trafficking.
- Commercially sexually exploited children can be identified as child sex trafficking victims regardless of whether they have or identify a trafficker.

SAFE HARBOR STATUS:

One of 21 states that fail to unequivocally protect all minors from punitive consequences for engagement in commercial sex. Thus, state law permits some commercially sexually exploited children to be held accountable for their own victimization.

Issue			Grade	Score	Summary
	1. Criminal Provisions		A	$\frac{17.5}{17.5}$	Policy goals accomplished in all areas, including buyer accountability under the trafficking law, buyer and trafficker accountability under state CSEC laws, mistake of age defenses, decoy defenses, business entity liability under the trafficking law, and financial penalties.
	2. Identification of and Response to Victims		F	$\frac{6}{27.5}$	Policy goals accomplished related to third party control and child abuse definitions. Gaps remain related to foreign national victims, screening through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, non-criminalization for prostitution offenses, expanded non-criminalization, juvenile court jurisdiction, and non-caregiver trafficking cases.
	3. Continuum of Care		F	$\frac{5}{15}$	Gaps remain in all areas, including community-based services, MDT responses, services through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, extended foster care services, and appropriations.
	4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors		F	$\frac{8}{15}$	Policy goals accomplished related to restitution and civil remedies. Gaps remain related to civil orders of protection, crime victims' compensation, vacatur, and statutes of limitation.
	5. Tools for a Victim-Centered Criminal Justice Response		B	$\frac{8.5}{10}$	Policy goal accomplished related to alternatives to live, in-court testimony. Gaps remain related to hearsay exceptions, victim-witness supports, and privileged communications.
	6. Prevention and Training		F	$\frac{1}{15}$	Gaps remain in all areas, including training for child welfare, juvenile justice agencies, law enforcement, prosecutors, and school personnel as well as prevention education in schools.
EXTRA CREDIT		Youth		3	Protections related to third party control, civil remedies, and alternatives to live, in-court testimony are extended to sex trafficked youth.
		Child Labor Trafficking		4	Protections related to financial penalties, restitution, civil remedies, and alternatives to live, in-court testimony are extended to child labor trafficking victims.

OVERALL GRADE
TIER II

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