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ARIZONA

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 17.5 points.
- Fifth most improved in 2023 (raised score by 14.5 points this year alone).
- Enacted House Bill 2651, mandating screening to support identification of sex trafficking victimization.
- Commercially sexually exploited children can be identified as child sex trafficking victims regardless of whether they have or identify a trafficker.
- Requires convicted offenders of child sex or labor trafficking or CSEC offenses to pay restitution to victims.
- Allows child and youth victims of sex or labor trafficking to seek accountability for their offenders through civil processes.

SAFE HARBOR STATUS:

One of 21 states that fail to prohibit the criminalization of minors for prostitution offenses, thus allowing commercially sexually exploited minors to be held criminally accountable for their own victimization.

Issue		Grade	Score	Summary
	1. Criminal Provisions	B	$\frac{15}{17.5}$	Policy goals accomplished related to buyer accountability under the trafficking law, trafficker accountability under state CSEC laws, mistake of age defenses, decoy defenses, business entity liability under the trafficking law, and financial penalties. Gap remains related to buyer accountability under state CSEC laws.
	2. Identification of and Response to Victims	F	$\frac{8.5}{27.5}$	Policy goals accomplished related to third party control, screening through child welfare, and child abuse definitions. Gaps remain related to foreign national victims, screening through 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	$\frac{2}{15}$	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	C	$\frac{10.5}{15}$	Policy goals accomplished related to civil orders of protection, restitution, and civil remedies. Gaps remain related to crime victims' compensation, vacatur, and statutes of limitation.
	5. Tools for a Victim-Centered Criminal Justice Response	D	$\frac{6.5}{10}$	Policy goal accomplished related to privileged communications. Gaps remain related to hearsay exceptions, alternatives to live, in-court testimony, and victim-witness supports.
	6. Prevention and Training	F	$\frac{2}{15}$	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		1	Protection related to civil remedies is extended to sex trafficked youth.
	Child Labor Trafficking		3	Protections related to financial penalties, restitution, and civil remedies are extended to child labor trafficking victims.

OVERALL GRADE
TIER II

F 48.5