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GEORGIA

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 18 points.
- Tied for 3rd most improved in 2023 (raised score by 17 points this year alone).
- Currently ranked 13th in the nation.
- One of 10 states to raise their letter grade this year.
- One of only 9 states to achieve full credit for its criminal provisions.
- State law requires state child serving agencies to adhere to the Georgia Model Child Abuse Protocol, which mandates screening for trafficking victimization and the provision of specialized services through child welfare.
- Over \$3,000,000 was appropriated from state funds to support the development and provision of specialized services for child, youth, and adult survivors of sex trafficking.

SAFE HARBOR STATUS:

One of 30 states that statutorily prohibit the criminalization of minors under the core prostitution offense.

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	$\frac{10.5}{27.5}$	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	$\frac{8}{15}$	Policy goals accomplished related to services through child welfare and appropriations. Gaps remain related to community-based services, MDT responses, services through the juvenile justice system, and extended foster care services.
	4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors	C	$\frac{11}{15}$	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	C	$\frac{7}{10}$	Gaps remain in all areas, including hearsay exceptions, alternatives to live, in-court testimony, victim-witness supports, and privileged communications.
	6. Prevention and Training	F	$\frac{6}{15}$	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		2	Protections related to appropriations and civil remedies are extended to sex trafficked youth.
	Child Labor Trafficking		4	Protections related to financial penalties, services through child welfare, restitution, and civil remedies are extended to child labor trafficking victims.

OVERALL GRADE
TIER II

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