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OHIO

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 12 points.
- Enacted House Bill 343, broadly mandating restitution in felony prosecutions, including child sex trafficking and CSEC cases.
- A portion of financial penalties, including fines and asset forfeiture, which are levied on convicted sex trafficking and CSEC offenders, are directed to victim-centered funds.
- Enacted House Bill 33, which allocated state funding to support anti-trafficking efforts, including up to \$3,000,000 in each fiscal year to administer and distribute grants to child advocacy centers.
- Allows trafficking victims to seek ex parte civil orders of protection against their exploiters.

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 subjected to juvenile justice processes as a result of their own victimization.

Issue		Grade	Score	Summary
	1. Criminal Provisions	B	$\frac{14.5}{17.5}$	Policy goals accomplished related to buyer and trafficker accountability under state CSEC laws, decoy defenses, business entity liability under the trafficking law, and financial penalties. Gaps remain related to buyer accountability under the trafficking law and mistake of age defenses.
	2. Identification of and Response to Victims	F	$\frac{3.5}{27.5}$	Policy goal accomplished related to child abuse definitions. Gaps remain related to third party control, 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	$\frac{6.5}{15}$	Policy goal accomplished related to appropriations. Gaps remain related to community-based services, MDT responses, services through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, and extended foster care services.
	4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors	B	$\frac{12.5}{15}$	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	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	$\frac{4.5}{15}$	Policy goal accomplished related to training for school personnel. Gaps remain related to training for child welfare, juvenile justice agencies, law enforcement, and prosecutors 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		5	Protections related to financial penalties, appropriations, 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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