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WASHINGTON

2023 Report Card

TIER I

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 8.5 points.
- Currently ranked 5th 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.
- Enacted House Bill 1028, clarifying that the victims' bill of rights applies to both adult and juvenile criminal proceedings.
- Enacted Senate Bill 5187/Senate Bill 5114, prioritizing services for sex trafficked adults over 18, which allows youth greater access to protection and services.

SAFE HARBOR STATUS:

One of 30 states that statutorily prohibit the criminalization of minors for prostitution.

Issue		Grade	Score	Summary
	1. Criminal Provisions	A	<u>17.5</u> 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	<u>13</u> 27.5	Policy goals accomplished related to third party control, foreign national victims, non-criminalization for prostitution offenses, and child abuse definitions. Gaps remain related to screening through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, expanded non-criminalization, juvenile court jurisdiction, and non-caregiver trafficking cases.
	3. Continuum of Care	C	<u>11</u> 15	Policy goals accomplished related to community-based services, MDT responses, services through child welfare, and extended foster care services. Gaps remain related to services through the juvenile justice system and appropriations.
	4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors	C	<u>11</u> 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	<u>8</u> 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	D	<u>10</u> 15	Policy goals accomplished related to training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and school personnel as well as prevention education in schools. Gaps remain related to training for child welfare and juvenile justice agencies.
EXTRA CREDIT	Youth		2	Protections related to community-based services and civil remedies are 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 I

C 75.5