

# Stop the inJuSTice:

## States Take Action

*Law by law, state by state, protecting juvenile sex trafficking victims*



## 2017 LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Every day, thousands of children are bought and sold for sex in the U.S. To help states to end and prevent these heinous crimes, Shared Hope International has established the Stop the inJuSTice: States Take Action Campaign.

The Stop the inJuSTice campaign advocates for state laws which both protect victims of juvenile sex trafficking and hold offenders accountable. For the past six years, Shared Hope has analyzed the laws of all fifty states and the District of Columbia, and issues an annual report card assessing the strength of those laws in combatting juvenile sex trafficking and protecting victims. While substantial progress has been made, over the past few years, critical gaps remain.

To close these gaps in state laws, Shared Hope International collaborates with concerned legislators, galvanizes public support, and utilizes state law research and targeted recommendations to advance statutory changes at the state level. The goal of the Stop the inJuSTice campaign is to see at least six states enact laws in six months that address these vital issues and gaps.

### SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR:

- **13 states and DC** have enacted bills related to juvenile sex trafficking.
- **54 more bills** are pending in 24 states.

## STOP THE inJuSTice CAMPAIGN UPDATES

This Progress Report provides an update on legislative advancements in the 2017 session and foreshadows exciting changes anticipated as bills continue to advance through state legislatures.

Significant changes have already occurred during this year. We are proud to report that in just four months, we have achieved and exceeded our goal! Already, 13 states and DC have enacted laws that will provide broader protections for child sex trafficking victims! Additionally, 54 bills are pending in 24 states!

2017 is developing into a successful year, and we expect to see many more bills enacted, but we still need your support! You can make a difference and support the campaign by:

- 1. Sharing Stop the inJuSTice Campaign materials on social media,**
- 2. Contacting your elected officials, either by tweet, email, or phone call; and/or**
- 3. Becoming an Ambassador of Hope.**

*You can be the crucial link in helping us eradicate child sex trafficking in the US!*

**All bills still pending\***

**At least one bill has been enacted in state/district\***

- Criminalization of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking
- Criminal Provisions Addressing Demand
- Criminal Provisions for Traffickers
- Criminal Provisions for Facilitators
- Protective Provisions for Child Victims
- Criminal Justice Tools for Investigation and Prosecution

\* This report reflects legislation as of May 11, 2017.

