## Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking State Action. National Change.



The Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking Advanced Legislative Framework builds on the original Protected Innocence Challenge Framework, preserving the most fundamental components while including new policy priorities that reflect feedback and research from the field—particularly in the area of victim protections. The advanced framework will be used to grade the states next fall when we release the inaugural Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking. As such, the 2021 legislative session is a critical time for your state to strengthen its laws before report cards and corresponding grades are issued.

So what is **Alabama's** current score and what changes are needed? As of August 1, 2019, **Alabama had raised its Grade From D to A**:

## **ALABAMA**



Alabama criminalizes the sex trafficking of minors, defined as individuals under 19, without requiring proof of coercion or deception or third party control. While a "sexually

exploited child" may not be adjudicated delinquent for the crime of prostitution, child sex trafficking victims may still be subjected to punitive processes through the juvenile justice system as a result of their trafficking victimization and underlying engagement in commercial sex. Further, although state law provides for a range of community-based services, these services are not required to be specialized to the unique needs of commercially sexually exploited children.

To support implementation of the Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking Advanced Legislative Framework, our Policy Team will remain available to provide rapid, technical assistance to support legislators, advocates, and state agencies; technical assistance requests can be submitted <a href="here">here</a>.

