

FIGHTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND PROTECTING VICTIMS



As a member of the bipartisan, bicameral Pennsylvania Anti-Human Trafficking Caucus, Rep. Valerie Gaydos is committed to strengthening Pennsylvania's laws, protecting victims and giving law enforcement the tools they need to combat human trafficking. Her work on this issue includes recent legislation as well as a record of supporting stronger protections for trafficking victims.

RECENT ACTION

ACT 31 OF 2026

Human Trafficking Awareness Training - Supported a new law requiring human trafficking awareness training for employees of hotels, motels and other public lodging establishments, as well as certain short-term rental operators. The goal is to help frontline workers recognize the signs of trafficking and know how to respond.

ACT 41 OF 2026

Strengthening Human Trafficking Enforcement - Supported a new law strengthening Pennsylvania's ability to investigate and prosecute human trafficking and prostitution-related offenses. The law enhances penalties and provides additional tools for the Attorney General and law enforcement.

HOUSE BILL 975

The Undocumented Immigrant Trafficking Prevention Act - Introduced legislation that would specifically address the trafficking of undocumented immigrants by expanding Pennsylvania's human trafficking statutes and establishing additional penalties for those who engage in this exploitation. House Bill 975 was referred to the House Judiciary Committee in March 2025.

A RECORD OF ACTION

ACT 45 OF 2021

Protecting Victims Through Sex Offender Treatment - Sponsored a new law requiring certain offenders who subjected a minor to sexual servitude to participate in Department of Corrections counseling or treatment programs while incarcerated. The measure passed the House 183-18 and became Act 45 of 2021.

ACT 32 OF 2026

Protecting Human Trafficking Victims - Supported a new law strengthening protections for trafficking victims by addressing evidence and defenses in human trafficking prosecutions.

HOUSE BILL 2174

Protecting Victims in Human Trafficking Prosecutions - Supported bipartisan legislation strengthening Pennsylvania's human trafficking laws by further limiting certain evidence and defenses in trafficking prosecutions.



A CONTINUING COMMITMENT

Human trafficking is a devastating crime that can affect people in communities across Pennsylvania. Combating it requires strong laws, effective enforcement, public awareness, and support for victims and survivors.

This work does not stop with one bill or one legislative session. Rep. Valerie Gaydos remains committed to strengthening Pennsylvania's laws, supporting victims and survivors, and making sure traffickers are held accountable. If you suspect someone is being trafficked, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.

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