

SENATE BILL NO. 497 - HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022  
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PRESIDENT, ROTARY CLUB OF COMMUNITY ACTION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CAAHT)

On behalf of Rotary Club of Community Action Against Human Trafficking (CAAHT), we support Senate Bill 497 legislation for requiring training on human trafficking awareness and identification in coordination with the attorney general's office.

Rotary Club of Community Action Against Human Trafficking (CAAHT) is dedicated and committed to put an end to human trafficking. We do this through advocacy, legislation, education, prevention and providing resources and support for victims, survivors, and their families here and abroad. Our projects, initiatives, speaker programs, and grants emphasize a call to action. We assist survivors, but we must work relentlessly to put a stop to human trafficking.

A large segment of the population does not recognize that human trafficking is taking place in their backyard. It happens in our schools, homes, workplace, and other sectors of daily life. Many are not sure how to identify signs of a child being trafficked. While we work with community organizations and government agencies to provide awareness and education, it is essential to implement legislation to require training for professionals that work with vulnerable populations and minors. This will move the needle to recognizing and reporting human trafficking more than anything.

We hear many stories of boys and girls groomed by individuals to use them for trafficking and sexual exploitation. It's time to empower professionals with knowledge and skills to work together to help children get out of these traumatic situations.

Senate Bill 497 will have a major impact on our families, communities, and society by not only bringing attention to human trafficking but by making it a priority. This a step in the right direction to putting an end to trafficking and keeping our children safe.

Rotary Club of Community Action Against Human Trafficking (CAAHT) supports SB 497 and we look forward doing our part by working with you, community organizations and agencies to implementing this legislation.