

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1405

To improve services for trafficking victims by establishing, in Homeland Security Investigations, the Investigators Maintain Purposeful Awareness to Combat Trafficking Trauma Program and the Victim Assistance Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2023

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. WAGNER, and Ms. SLOTKIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To improve services for trafficking victims by establishing, in Homeland Security Investigations, the Investigators Maintain Purposeful Awareness to Combat Trafficking Trauma Program and the Victim Assistance Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “IMPACTT Human  
5 Trafficking Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INVESTIGATORS MAINTAIN PURPOSEFUL AWARE-**  
2 **NESS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING TRAUMA**  
3 **PROGRAM.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established, in  
5 Homeland Security Investigations of U.S. Immigration  
6 and Customs Enforcement, the Investigators Maintain  
7 Purposeful Awareness to Combat Trafficking Trauma  
8 Program (referred to in this Act as the “IMPACTT Pro-  
9 gram”).

10 (b) FUNCTIONS.—The IMPACTT Program shall—

11 (1) provide outreach and training to Homeland  
12 Security Investigations employees who have been ex-  
13 posed to various forms of trauma in working with  
14 victims of human trafficking, including—

15 (A) self-awareness training for the relevant  
16 employees on recognizing the signs of burnout,  
17 compassion fatigue, critical incident stress,  
18 traumatic stress, posttraumatic stress, sec-  
19 ondary traumatic stress, and vicarious trauma;

20 (B) training material that—

21 (i) provides mechanisms for self-care  
22 and resilience and notification of resources  
23 that are available through U.S. Immigra-  
24 tion and Customs Enforcement, such as  
25 the Employee Assistance Program, the  
26 Peer Support Program, the Chaplain Pro-

1           gram, and other relevant accredited pro-  
2           grams that are available; and

3           (ii) provides examples of potential re-  
4           sources that are available outside of U.S.  
5           Immigration and Customs Enforcement,  
6           which may include, faith-based and com-  
7           munity-based resources; and

8           (C) provide additional training to first line  
9           supervisors of relevant employees on recog-  
10          nizing the signs referred to in subparagraph  
11          (A) and the appropriate responses to employees  
12          exhibiting such signs;

13          (2) include training modules that are carried  
14          out by—

15               (A) licensed and accredited clinicians  
16               who—

17                       (i) have been trained on the exposure  
18                       of various forms of trauma and other  
19                       stressors experienced in working with vic-  
20                       tims; and

21                       (ii) may have experience working with  
22                       faith-based organizations, community-  
23                       based organizations, counseling programs,  
24                       or other social service programs; and

1 (B) additional subject matter experts who  
2 are available; and

3 (3) be overseen and coordinated by the Depart-  
4 ment of Homeland Security Center for Countering  
5 Human Trafficking to ensure that—

6 (A) appropriate program materials are dis-  
7 tributed;

8 (B) training is offered to all relevant em-  
9 ployees; and

10 (C) any needed travel and equipment is  
11 provided.

12 **SEC. 3. HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS VICTIM AS-**  
13 **SISTANCE PROGRAM.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title IV of the  
15 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 251 et seq.)  
16 is amended by adding at the end the following:

17 **“SEC. 447. HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS VICTIM**  
18 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

19 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 “(1) FORENSIC INTERVIEW SPECIALIST.—The  
21 term ‘forensic interview specialist’ is an interview  
22 professional who has specialized experience and  
23 training in conducting trauma-informed forensic  
24 interviews with victims of crime.

1           “(2) VICTIM.—The term ‘victim’ has the mean-  
2           ing given such term in section 503(e)(2) of the Vic-  
3           tims’ Rights and Restitution Act of 1990 (34 U.S.C.  
4           20141(e)(2)).

5           “(3) VICTIM ASSISTANCE SPECIALIST.—The  
6           term ‘victim assistance specialist’ is a victim assist-  
7           ance professional who—

8                   “(A) has experience working with victims  
9                   of crime in a service capacity;

10                   “(B) has been trained on the exposure of  
11                   various forms of trauma and other stressors ex-  
12                   perienced in working with victims; and

13                   “(C) may have experience working with  
14                   local government and community-based organi-  
15                   zations, including victim advocacy centers, child  
16                   advocacy centers, child welfare agencies, faith-  
17                   based organizations, and other social service  
18                   programs.

19           “(b) IN GENERAL.—There is established, in Home-  
20           land Security Investigations of U.S. Immigration and Cus-  
21           toms Enforcement, the Victim Assistance Program.

22           “(c) FUNCTIONS.—The Victim Assistance Program  
23           shall—

24                   “(1) provide oversight, guidance, training, trav-  
25                   el, equipment, and coordination to Homeland Secu-

1 rity Investigations victim assistance personnel  
2 throughout the United States;

3 “(2) recruit not fewer than—

4 “(A) 1 forensic interview specialist and 1  
5 victim assistance specialist for each Homeland  
6 Security Investigations Special Agent in Charge  
7 office;

8 “(B) 1 victim assistance specialist for—

9 “(i) every Homeland Security Inves-  
10 tigation office participating in a human  
11 trafficking task force; and

12 “(ii) every Homeland Security Inves-  
13 tigation office participating in a child sex-  
14 ual exploitation task force;

15 “(3) support Homeland Security Investigations  
16 regional attaché offices, to the extent necessary;

17 “(4) provide training regarding victims’ rights,  
18 victim-related policies, roles of forensic interviewers  
19 and victim assistance specialists, and an approach  
20 that is—

21 “(A) victim-centered;

22 “(B) trauma-informed; and

23 “(C) linguistically appropriate, to the ex-  
24 tent feasible; and

1           “(5) purchase emergency items that are needed  
2           to assist identified victims in Homeland Security In-  
3           vestigations criminal investigations, including food,  
4           clothing, hygiene products, transportation, and tem-  
5           porary shelter that is not otherwise provided by a  
6           nongovernmental organization.”.

7           (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—  
8           The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–  
9           296) is amended—

10           (1) in section 1(b) (6 U.S.C. 101 note)—

11           (A) by striking the item relating to section  
12           442 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 442. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.”; and

13           (B) by inserting after the item relating to  
14           section 446 the following:

“Sec. 447. Homeland Security Investigations Victim Assistance Program.”;

15           (2) in section 442—

16           (A) by amending the section heading to  
17           read as follows: “**U.S. IMMIGRATION AND**  
18           **CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT**”;

19           (B) by striking “bureau” each place such  
20           term appears (except in subsection (a)(1)) and  
21           inserting “agency”;

22           (C) by striking “the Bureau of Border Se-  
23           curity” each place such term appears and in-

1           serting “U.S. Immigration and Customs En-  
2           forcement”;

3           (D) in subsection (a)—

4           (i) in the subsection heading, by strik-  
5           ing “OF BUREAU”;

6           (ii) in paragraph (3)(C), by striking  
7           “affecting the Bureau of” and inserting  
8           “affecting U.S.”; and

9           (iii) in paragraph (4), by striking “the  
10          Bureau.” and inserting “the agency.”; and

11          (E) in subsection (b)(2)—

12          (i) in the matter preceding subpara-  
13          graph (A), by striking “Bureau of Border  
14          Security” and inserting “U.S. Immigration  
15          and Customs Enforcement”; and

16          (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
17          “the Bureau of” before “Citizenship and  
18          Immigration Services” and inserting  
19          “U.S.”; and

20          (3) in section 443(2), by striking “such bu-  
21          reau” and inserting “such agency”.

22 **SEC. 4. ANNUAL REPORT.**

23          Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment  
24          of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of



1 Homeland Security shall submit a report to Congress that  
2 identifies, with respect to the reporting period—

3           (1) the number of trainings that were provided  
4           through the IMPACTT Program and the number of  
5           personnel who received such training; and

6           (2) the number of human trafficking victims  
7           who were assisted by the Homeland Security Inves-  
8           tigations Victim Assistance Program.

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