



National District Attorneys Association
1400 Crystal Drive, Suite 330, Arlington, VA 22202
703.549.9222 / 703.836.3195 Fax
www.ndaa.org

July 24, 2017

The Honorable John Thune
Chairman
Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson
Ranking Member
Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Thune and Ranking Member Nelson,

On behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), the largest and oldest prosecutor organization representing 2,500 elected and appointed District Attorneys across the United States as well as 40,000 Assistant District Attorneys, I write in support of S. 1532, the *No Human Trafficking on Our Roads Act*. This important legislation disqualifies an individual from operating a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) for his or her lifetime for committing a human trafficking felony using a CMV.

Current federal law dictates that a driver who commits a felony related to human trafficking loses his or her commercial driver's license (CDL) for one year with the potential for reinstatement, while committing a drug trafficking felony carries a lifetime ban with no possibility of reinstatement. As our members increasingly identify victims of human trafficking and learn of their horrific stories, it has become clear that anyone committing such a heinous act through the use of a commercial motor vehicle should receive the same punishment as someone peddling drugs through the same means.

To be clear, commercial drivers on our nation's highways are a front line of defense in identifying and reporting potential human trafficking victims and they should be commended for their efforts. In fact, NDAA's National Traffic Law Center recently held a commercial driving seminar in which a familiar organization to your committee, Truckers Against Trafficking, presented to educate prosecutors on their efforts. We need these responsible commercial drivers on our nation's highways to assist law enforcement in cracking down on the scourge of human trafficking in our communities.

Sadly, some drivers use their mobility and commercial vehicles to transport people to be sold into slavery. When convicted, those truck drivers should never be allowed to legally drive a commercial motor vehicle again. Responsible drivers should not have their reputations damaged by rogue criminals.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue and we look forward to working with you and your staff to pass this into law.

Sincerely,

Michael O. Freeman
President