



April 4, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

It has come to my attention that Bill 5666 AN ACT CONCERNING THE FORFEITURE OF MONEYS AND PROPERTY RELATED TO SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING is up for public hearing Friday, April 5, 2013. Unfortunately, due to a previous commitment, I will not be able to attend this hearing. This is a very important step that Connecticut is taking toward protecting the victims of human trafficking, who are often re-victimized by defendants who mount an expensive defense with the very same dollars raised as a result of the exploitation of these victims.

My name is Nadesha Mijoba and as an abolitionist working against modern day slavery and human trafficking, I must emphasize my support of Bill 5666. I do, however, hope that this can be extended to include language that insures that money and property forfeited are allocated for the benefit of the victims, including access to appropriate care, follow-up support, relocated safe housing, etc. As the director of Provenance Center in New London, CT, I have been involved for a number of years in efforts to promote awareness, understanding and sensitivity to the local, national and international epidemic of modern slavery and human trafficking. Through our arts and education programs, we have sought to "open the doors" for the public regarding this widespread multi-billion dollar industry and serious threat to the well-being of our children and general public health. It is time for slavery - in all its forms - to be fully exposed and abolished from our lives.

Sincerely,



Nadesha Mijoba
Director