



30 Bank Street  
PO Box 350  
New Britain  
CT 06050-0350  
*06051 for 30 Bank Street*  
P: (860) 223-4400  
F: (860) 223-4488

Testimony of Douglas J. Monaghan  
Connecticut Bar Association  
Chair, Child Welfare and Juvenile Law Section

**In SUPPORT of SB 1158**  
AAC VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**AND**

**In SUPPORT of HB 6696**  
AAC ENHANCED STATE EFFORTS TO PREVENT HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

Judiciary Committee  
April 15, 2013

The CBA Child Welfare and Juvenile Law Section **supports** passage of these bills and like legislation.

According to the American Bar Association Task Force on Human Trafficking, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (“Trafficking Protocol”), a United Nations Convention entered into force in 2003 and ratified by the United States in 2005, defines “trafficking in persons” as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation.” It specifies that “[e]xploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.”

The proposed legislation would authorize the seizure and forfeiture of criminal assets to include assets derived from commercial sexual exploitation of a minor and increase criminal penalties. It requires little consideration to add these tools to the state’s ability to effectively deal with such heinous criminality. Since human trafficking is at its base a commercial enterprise, giving the state the authority to capture assets which strikes at the heart of the criminal conduct and will deprive the traffickers of their “ill-gotten gains.”