

## Blanchard, Deborah

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**From:** Alice Goodrich <alicegoodrich7486@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2019 2:56 PM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Subject:** HB 7399

March 31, 2019

Dear Judicial Committee Members,

My name is Alice Goodrich and I am writing today to implore you to support HB 7399. As a volunteer team leader for Love146 in Wethersfield, it is imperative to support this legislation. There is not one community within our great State that is not affected by human/sex trafficking of our youth. More protective measures need to be put in place so these precious victims can get the help they need once they are rescued to put their lives back together.

The inability to provide protective services for these victims is unconscionable. Your making these young people victims twice over. How can you believe that is the proper thing to do?

In Support of HB 7399 An Act Concerning Legal Protections for the Victims of Human Trafficking and the Protection of Minors from Cyber Exploitation Judiciary Committee, April 1 st , 2019 Distinguished members of the Judicial Committee, my name is [NAME], and I [introduce yourself and why you care about the issue]. I am writing to you in support of HB 7399, An Act Concerning Privileged Communication Made by Victims of Human Trafficking to a Human Trafficking Counselor. This Bill addresses an important gap in Connecticut's ability to provide effective services to survivors of human trafficking. Currently in Connecticut, a victim's communications with a human trafficking counselor is not confidential. Therapeutic care depends on victims having confidence and trust that they can make honest and complete disclosures about the facts, memories, thoughts, and feelings associated with their victimization. They must be able to confide in counselors without risk that the information they share could be disclosed publicly without their consent. This bill will enable children who have been trafficked to speak openly to trained service providers confidentially. It will also offer additional protection to those children who committed crimes as a direct result of their trafficking and expand the definition of commercial sexual abuse to include online exploitation. Human trafficking is a horrendous trauma — and victims deserve protection and privacy. Survivors should have the right to decide when, what, and to whom their information is shared, and should not fear disclosure in court. HB 7399 will facilitate victims access to services and protect children who are victims of this horrific crime. I hope that the Committee will see the importance of strengthening the legislative protection for victims of child trafficking and join me in supporting HB 7399. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Help to be a part of the solution to a horrible problem.

Respectfully,

Alice Goodrich

Team Leader  
ACT NOW  
Anti-Child Trafficking Network of Wethersfield

***"Commit your plans to the Lord and He will direct your path."***