

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to ensure adequate time for the preparation of the annual Trafficking in Persons Report and to require the timely provision of information to the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and the Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the Department of State regarding the number and location of visa denials based on grounds related to human trafficking.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—116th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 4049

To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2021 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. BLUMENTHAL

Viz:

- 1 At the end of subtitle F of title XII of division A,
- 2 add the following:
- 3 **SEC. 1274. REPORT ON FOREIGN TRAFFICKERS.**
- 4 (a) **SHORT TITLES.**—This section may be cited as the
- 5 “Leveraging Information on Foreign Traffickers Act” or
- 6 the “LIFT Act”.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
2 gress that—

3 (1) the annual Trafficking In Persons Report
4 prepared by the Department of State pursuant to
5 the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (the
6 “TIP Report”) remains one of the most comprehen-
7 sive, timely, and important sources of information on
8 human trafficking in the world, and currently in-
9 cludes 187 individual country narratives;

10 (2) in January 2019, the statute mandating the
11 TIP Report was amended to require that each report
12 must cover efforts and activities occurring within the
13 period from April 1 of the prior year through March
14 31 of the current year, which necessarily requires
15 the collection and transmission of information after
16 March 31;

17 (3) ensuring that the Department of State has
18 adequate time to receive, analyze, and incorporate
19 trafficking-related information into its annual Traf-
20 ficking In Persons Report is important to the quality
21 and comprehensiveness of that report;

22 (4) information regarding prevalence and pat-
23 terns of human trafficking is important for under-
24 standing the scourge of modern slavery and making

1 effective decisions about where and how to combat
2 it; and

3 (5) United States officials responsible for moni-
4 toring and combating trafficking in persons around
5 the world should receive available information re-
6 garding where and how often United States diplo-
7 matic and consular officials encounter persons who
8 are responsible for, or who knowingly benefit from,
9 severe forms of trafficking in persons.

10 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 (1) LOCATIONS OF UNITED STATES VISA DENI-
12 ALS.—The term “location of United States visa de-
13 nials” means—

14 (A) the United States diplomatic or con-
15 sular post at which a denied United States visa
16 application was adjudicated; and

17 (B) the city or locality of residence of the
18 applicant whose visa application was so denied.

19 (2) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
20 TEES.—The term “relevant congressional commit-
21 tees” means—

22 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
23 the Senate;

24 (B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
25 Senate;

1 (C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
2 the House of Representatives; and

3 (D) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
4 House of Representatives.

5 (d) ANNUAL DEADLINE FOR TRAFFICKING IN PER-
6 SONS REPORT.—Section 110(b)(1) of the Trafficking Vic-
7 tims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)(1)) is
8 amended by striking “June 1” and inserting “June 30”.

9 (e) UNITED STATES ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HUMAN
10 TRAFFICKING.—

11 (1) EXTENSION.—Section 115(h) of the Justice
12 for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (Public Law
13 114–22; 129 Stat. 243) is amended by striking
14 “September 30, 2021” and inserting “September
15 30, 2025”.

16 (2) COMPENSATION.—Section 115(f) of such
17 Act is amended—

18 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at
19 the end;

20 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking the pe-
21 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

22 (C) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(3) may each receive compensation for each
24 day such member is engaged in the actual perform-
25 ance of the duties of the Council.”.

1 (3) COMPENSATION REPORT.—Not later than
2 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
3 the Secretary of State shall submit a plan to the rel-
4 evant congressional committees for implementing
5 compensation for members of the United States Ad-
6 visory Council on Human Trafficking pursuant to
7 section 115(f)(3) of the Justice for Victims of Traf-
8 ficking Act of 2015, as added by paragraph (2)(C).

9 (f) TIMELY PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO THE OF-
10 FICE TO MONITOR AND COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PER-
11 SONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 106 of the Traf-
13 ficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C.
14 7104) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(1) INFORMATION REGARDING HUMAN TRAF-
17 FICKING-RELATED VISA DENIALS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State
19 shall ensure that the Office to Monitor and Combat
20 Trafficking in Persons and the Bureau of Diplo-
21 matic Security of the Department of State receive
22 timely and regular information regarding United
23 States visa denials based, in whole or in part, on
24 grounds related to human trafficking.

1 “(2) DECISIONS REGARDING ALLOCATION.—

2 The Secretary of State shall ensure that decisions
3 regarding the allocation of resources of the Depart-
4 ment of State related to combating human traf-
5 ficking and to law enforcement presence at United
6 States diplomatic and consular posts appropriately
7 take into account—

8 “(A) the information described in para-
9 graph (1); and

10 “(B) the information included in the most
11 recent report submitted in accordance with sec-
12 tion 110(b).”.

13 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 103
14 of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102) is amended by adding
15 at the end the following:

16 “(18) GROUNDS RELATED TO HUMAN TRAF-
17 FICKING.—The term ‘grounds related to human traf-
18 ficking’ means grounds related to the criteria for in-
19 admissibility to the United States described in sec-
20 tion 212(a)(2)(H) of the Immigration and Nation-
21 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)(H)).”.

22 (g) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

23 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-

1 retary of State shall submit a report to the relevant
2 congressional committees that—

3 (A) describes the actions that have been
4 taken and that are planned to implement sec-
5 tion 106(l) of the Trafficking Victims Protec-
6 tion Act of 2000, as added by subsection (f)(1);
7 and

8 (B) identifies by country and by United
9 States diplomatic and consular post the number
10 of visa applications denied during the previous
11 calendar year with respect to which the basis
12 for such denial, included grounds related to
13 human trafficking (as defined in section 103 of
14 the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000,
15 as amended by subsection (f)(2)).

16 (2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning with the first
17 annual anti-trafficking report required under section
18 110(b)(1) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act
19 of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)(1)) that is submitted
20 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and con-
21 current with each such subsequent submission for
22 the following 7 years, the Secretary of State shall
23 submit a report to the relevant congressional com-
24 mittees that contains information relating to the
25 number and the locations of United States visa deni-

1 als based, in whole or in part, on grounds related to
2 human trafficking (as defined in section 103 of the
3 Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as
4 amended by subsection (f)(2)) during the period cov-
5 ered by each such report.