



## MEDIA ADVISORY

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

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### **Free Webinar on How Immigration Courts Can Protect Vulnerable Children from Trafficking**

The [Alliance to End Human Trafficking](#) (AEHT) and the [National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd](#) (NAC) are hosting a webinar on Monday titled "Breaking the Link: How Immigration Courts Can Protect Vulnerable Children from Trafficking."

The webinar, scheduled for March 4 from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm EST, will focus on the critical role immigration courts play in addressing child trafficking and why both organizations are supporting current legislation, H.R. 6145 and S. 3178, that would improve immigration proceedings for unaccompanied children and be a formal process to combat human trafficking.

#### **Free Webinar Open to the Public**

*Breaking the Link: How Immigration Courts Can Protect Vulnerable Children from Trafficking*  
Monday, March 4, 2024 | 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm EST

[Register Here](#)

This session will explore the potential impact of the Immigration Court Efficiency and Children's Court Act ([H.R. 6145](#) and [S. 3178](#)) in transforming legal processes into supportive environments prioritizing the safety and well-being of unaccompanied minors. With specialized training for judges and legal practitioners, there is a focus on improving the identification and support of vulnerable individuals affected by trafficking, which could significantly enhance child protection within the U.S. immigration system.

"We believe this legislation represents an important step in providing much-needed support for children navigating the complexities of the U.S. immigration courts," says **Fran Eskin-Royer, Executive Director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd**. "We are dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of these vulnerable children."

Katie Boller Gosewisch, Executive Director of AEHT, adds, "Through education and advocacy, we aim to create a system that actively protects children from the trauma of trafficking. This webinar provides an opportunity to raise awareness and drive positive change."

The webinar will feature expert speakers, including Jason Boyd from KIND (Kids in Need of Defense), activist/survivor Evelyn Chumbow from the Human Trafficking Legal Center, and Jennifer Bibby-Gerth from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington DC.

**This event is the second webinar in a three-part series focused on three distinct legislative opportunities to break the link between human trafficking and forced migration. To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/HTandFMWebinar2>**

*About AEHT and NAC:*

*AEHT and NAC are dedicated to eradicating human trafficking through advocacy, collaboration, and education. They work tirelessly to bring awareness to the issue and support legislative measures that protect and empower the most vulnerable in society.*

*[Alliance to End Human Trafficking](#) was founded in 2013 by a group of Catholic Sisters committed to ending human trafficking and supporting survivors. They created a national network of resources and support that includes many different congregations of women religious and mission-aligned partners. Today, this member-based organization has grown to include more than 115 congregations and another 100+ individuals and organizations spread throughout the United States. AEHT is also the U.S. member of Talitha Kum, the international network of consecrated life working to end human trafficking.*

*[The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd](#) educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, survivors of human trafficking, survivors of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations. NAC reflects the spirituality, history and mission of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (better known as the Sisters of the Good Shepherd). The sisters and their agencies work in solidarity with the disenfranchised – particularly families, women and children – who often are forgotten, left-behind or dismissed.*

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