



American Medical Women's Association  
The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

May 15, 2017

The Honorable Carl E. Heastie  
Speaker of the New York State Assembly  
LOB 932  
Albany, NY 12248

To Assembly Member Heastie

Letter of Support of A.6823 Paulin

My name is Dr. Suzanne L. Harrison and I am the president of American Medical Women's Association (AMWA). Founded in 1915, AMWA is an organization of physicians, medical students and other persons dedicated to serving as the unique voice for women's health and the advancement of women in medicine. In 2014, AMWA founded Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans (PATH) to help educate physicians, residents, and medical students about issues surrounding human sex trafficking.

We strongly support and urge you to support A. 6823, legislation that would create the crime of sex trafficking of a child by aligning state law with federal.

Human trafficking devastates the lives of individuals and destroys families and communities. Children are major targets of human traffickers both because their exploiters find them easier to control than adults and because they are in great demand by sex buyers. Estimates suggest that each year at least 100,000 American children become victims of sex trafficking (National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking).

While the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act does not require that prosecutors prove coercion when the victim is a minor, New York State's anti-trafficking law does. This means that prosecutors cannot build successful cases against child traffickers unless their minor victims are willing and able to testify credibly against those who subjected them to serial rape for profit. The trauma children sustain as a result of sex trafficking and their terror of retaliation against their exploiters often prevents child victims from being credible, willing witnesses. A. 6823 would lift the burden from sex trafficked children of having to provide painful, humiliating details about their sexual exploitation while making it easier for prosecutors to bring strong cases against those who profit from their exploitation. Currently 47 states do not require that prosecutors prove



coercion in sex trafficking cases when the victims are minors and thus protect child sex trafficking victims from the trauma of testifying about their degradation and abuse.

A. 6823 recognizes that traffickers sometimes induce young victims to assist them in exploiting other trafficked children. To protect young trafficking victims induced to exploit others, the bill creates an affirmative defense for those ages 19 and younger that the young person was being trafficked within the meaning of federal or state law.

We call on you to support A. 6823 to ensure that we can end child sex trafficking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SH', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Suzanne L. Harrison, MD  
AMWA President 2017-2018





American Medical **Women's** Association



American Medical Women's Association  
The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

May 15, 2017

The Honorable John J. Flanagan  
Majority Leader, New York State Senate  
Room 330, State Capital Building  
Albany, NY 12247

To Assembly Member Flanagan

Letter of Support of A.6823 Paulin

My name is Dr. Suzanne L. Harrison and I am the president of American Medical Women's Association (AMWA). Founded in 1915, AMWA is an organization of physicians, medical students and other persons dedicated to serving as the unique voice for women's health and the advancement of women in medicine. In 2014, AMWA founded Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans (PATH) to help educate physicians, residents, and medical students about issues surrounding human sex trafficking.

We strongly support and urge you to support A. 6823, legislation that would create the crime of sex trafficking of a child by aligning state law with federal.

Human trafficking devastates the lives of individuals and destroys families and communities. Children are major targets of human traffickers both because their exploiters find them easier to control than adults and because they are in great demand by sex buyers. Estimates suggest that each year at least 100,000 American children become victims of sex trafficking (National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking).

While the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act does not require that prosecutors prove coercion when the victim is a minor, New York State's anti-trafficking law does. This means that prosecutors cannot build successful cases against child traffickers unless their minor victims are willing and able to testify credibly against those who subjected them to serial rape for profit. The trauma children sustain as a result of sex trafficking and their terror of retaliation against their exploiters often prevents child victims from being credible, willing witnesses. A. 6823 would lift the burden from sex trafficked children of having to provide painful, humiliating details about their sexual exploitation while making it easier for prosecutors to bring strong cases against those who profit from their exploitation. Currently 47 states do not require that prosecutors prove



coercion in sex trafficking cases when the victims are minors and thus protect child sex trafficking victims from the trauma of testifying about their degradation and abuse.

A. 6823 recognizes that traffickers sometimes induce young victims to assist them in exploiting other trafficked children. To protect young trafficking victims induced to exploit others, the bill creates an affirmative defense for those ages 19 and younger that the young person was being trafficked within the meaning of federal or state law.

We call on you to support A. 6823 to ensure that we can end child sex trafficking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SH', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Suzanne L. Harrison, MD  
AMWA President 2017-2018





American Medical **Women's** Association



American Medical Women's Association  
The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

May 15, 2017

The Honorable Joseph Lentol  
LOB 632  
Albany, NY 12248

To Assembly Member Lentol

Letter of Support of A.6823 Paulin

My name is Dr. Suzanne L. Harrison and I am the president of American Medical Women's Association (AMWA). Founded in 1915, AMWA is an organization of physicians, medical students and other persons dedicated to serving as the unique voice for women's health and the advancement of women in medicine. In 2014, AMWA founded Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans (PATH) to help educate physicians, residents, and medical students about issues surrounding human sex trafficking.

We strongly support and urge you to support A. 6823, legislation that would create the crime of sex trafficking of a child by aligning state law with federal.

Human trafficking devastates the lives of individuals and destroys families and communities. Children are major targets of human traffickers both because their exploiters find them easier to control than adults and because they are in great demand by sex buyers. Estimates suggest that each year at least 100,000 American children become victims of sex trafficking (National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking).

While the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act does not require that prosecutors prove coercion when the victim is a minor, New York State's anti-trafficking law does. This means that prosecutors cannot build successful cases against child traffickers unless their minor victims are willing and able to testify credibly against those who subjected them to serial rape for profit. The trauma children sustain as a result of sex trafficking and their terror of retaliation against their exploiters often prevents child victims from being credible, willing witnesses. A. 6823 would lift the burden from sex trafficked children of having to provide painful, humiliating details about their sexual exploitation while making it easier for prosecutors to bring strong cases against those who profit from their exploitation. Currently 47 states do not require that prosecutors prove



coercion in sex trafficking cases when the victims are minors and thus protect child sex trafficking victims from the trauma of testifying about their degradation and abuse.

A. 6823 recognizes that traffickers sometimes induce young victims to assist them in exploiting other trafficked children. To protect young trafficking victims induced to exploit others, the bill creates an affirmative defense for those ages 19 and younger that the young person was being trafficked within the meaning of federal or state law.

We call on you to support A. 6823 to ensure that we can end child sex trafficking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SH', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Suzanne L. Harrison, MD  
AMWA President 2017-2018





American Medical **Women's** Association



American Medical Women's Association  
The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

May 15, 2017

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12247

To Assembly Member Cuomo

Letter of Support of A.6823 Paulin

My name is Dr. Suzanne L. Harrison and I am the president of American Medical Women's Association (AMWA). Founded in 1915, AMWA is an organization of physicians, medical students and other persons dedicated to serving as the unique voice for women's health and the advancement of women in medicine. In 2014, AMWA founded Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans (PATH) to help educate physicians, residents, and medical students about issues surrounding human sex trafficking.

We strongly support and urge you to support A. 6823, legislation that would create the crime of sex trafficking of a child by aligning state law with federal.

Human trafficking devastates the lives of individuals and destroys families and communities. Children are major targets of human traffickers both because their exploiters find them easier to control than adults and because they are in great demand by sex buyers. Estimates suggest that each year at least 100,000 American children become victims of sex trafficking (National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking).

While the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act does not require that prosecutors prove coercion when the victim is a minor, New York State's anti-trafficking law does. This means that prosecutors cannot build successful cases against child traffickers unless their minor victims are willing and able to testify credibly against those who subjected them to serial rape for profit. The trauma children sustain as a result of sex trafficking and their terror of retaliation against their exploiters often prevents child victims from being credible, willing witnesses. A. 6823 would lift the burden from sex trafficked children of having to provide painful, humiliating details about their sexual exploitation while making it easier for prosecutors to bring strong cases against those who profit from their exploitation. Currently 47 states do not require that prosecutors prove



coercion in sex trafficking cases when the victims are minors and thus protect child sex trafficking victims from the trauma of testifying about their degradation and abuse.

A. 6823 recognizes that traffickers sometimes induce young victims to assist them in exploiting other trafficked children. To protect young trafficking victims induced to exploit others, the bill creates an affirmative defense for those ages 19 and younger that the young person was being trafficked within the meaning of federal or state law.

We call on you to support A. 6823 to ensure that we can end child sex trafficking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SH', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Suzanne L. Harrison, MD  
AMWA President 2017-2018





American Medical **Women's** Association



American Medical Women's Association  
The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

May 15, 2017

The Honorable Kathleen O'Keefe  
Legislative Counsel to the Governor at the New York State Assembly  
Room 347 Capitol  
Albany, NY 12248

To Assembly Member O'Keefe

Letter of Support of A.6823 Paulin

My name is Dr. Suzanne L. Harrison and I am the president of American Medical Women's Association (AMWA). Founded in 1915, AMWA is an organization of physicians, medical students and other persons dedicated to serving as the unique voice for women's health and the advancement of women in medicine. In 2014, AMWA founded Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans (PATH) to help educate physicians, residents, and medical students about issues surrounding human sex trafficking.

We strongly support and urge you to support A. 6823, legislation that would create the crime of sex trafficking of a child by aligning state law with federal.

Human trafficking devastates the lives of individuals and destroys families and communities. Children are major targets of human traffickers both because their exploiters find them easier to control than adults and because they are in great demand by sex buyers. Estimates suggest that each year at least 100,000 American children become victims of sex trafficking (National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking).

While the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act does not require that prosecutors prove coercion when the victim is a minor, New York State's anti-trafficking law does. This means that prosecutors cannot build successful cases against child traffickers unless their minor victims are willing and able to testify credibly against those who subjected them to serial rape for profit. The trauma children sustain as a result of sex trafficking and their terror of retaliation against their exploiters often prevents child victims from being credible, willing witnesses. A. 6823 would lift the burden from sex trafficked children of having to provide painful, humiliating details about their sexual exploitation while making it easier for prosecutors to bring strong cases against those who profit from their exploitation. Currently 47 states do not require that prosecutors prove



coercion in sex trafficking cases when the victims are minors and thus protect child sex trafficking victims from the trauma of testifying about their degradation and abuse.

A. 6823 recognizes that traffickers sometimes induce young victims to assist them in exploiting other trafficked children. To protect young trafficking victims induced to exploit others, the bill creates an affirmative defense for those ages 19 and younger that the young person was being trafficked within the meaning of federal or state law.

We call on you to support A. 6823 to ensure that we can end child sex trafficking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SH', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Suzanne L. Harrison, MD  
AMWA President 2017-2018





American Medical **Women's** Association