

**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2021 at 7:58 AM  
**From:** "Senator Carper" <Senator\_Tom\_Carper@carper.senate.gov>  
**To:** richardmillsformerderesident@gmx.com  
**Subject:** Responding to your message

**Tom Carper** United States Senator for Delaware

July 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Mills @ChaseSenCarper,

Thank you for contacting me to express your concern over human trafficking. I appreciate hearing your views on this important matter.

As you may know, the trafficking of people for prostitution or forced labor is a global problem that affects hundreds of thousands of individuals. According to the United Nations, between 20 million and 40 million people internationally are victims of trafficking. Additionally, between two and four million people are trafficked annually within country borders. Human trafficking is now considered a leading source of profits for organized crime syndicates, generating billions of dollars worldwide.

In 2000, Congress passed the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act to address this growing humanitarian crisis. Signed into law by President Bill Clinton on October 28, 2000, the measure included a wide range of provisions designed to prevent human trafficking, protect its victims, and prosecute those who engaged in these crimes, both within the United States and internationally. Among other things, the act doubled the maximum penalties for slavery or sale into involuntary servitude from 10 to 20 years imprisonment, and added the possibility of life imprisonment for such violations resulting in death or involving kidnapping or aggravated sexual abuse. Congress has in the past reauthorized this legislation three times, most recently in 2018.

As you mentioned in your letter, I agree that more can be done to combat this form of modern-day slavery. Throughout my time in the United States Senate, I have consistently supported legislation that takes action to end modern slavery, trafficking, and exploitation. I have been proud to support funding for organizations and agencies that make it their primary goal to fight against human traffickers and protect the victims. With that said, on March 23, 2021, Senator John Cornyn introduced S. 895, the Human Trafficking Survivor Tax Relief Act in the Senate. This legislation would prohibit the collection of federal income taxes from any civil damages, restitution, or other monetary award granted to human trafficking survivors. Upon its introduction, S. 895 was referred to the Finance Committee. You will be pleased to know I am a cosponsor of this legislation.

I have always fought to uphold the Golden Rule—to treat others the way we want to be treated. Please be assured that I will continue to support reasonable levels of funding for programs to prevent human trafficking as I work with my colleagues to determine Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations.

Thank you again for contacting my office. Please do not hesitate to contact me in the future about this matter or other issues of importance to you.

With best personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,  
Tom Carper  
United States Senator

To send another message please visit my website at <http://carper.senate.gov/contact> and fill out the webform for a prompt response. Thank you.

Please do not respond to this email.

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