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Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking and Slavery (NAHT)

Re: **Legislative Priorities**

Submitted to: **The 2021 Iowa General Assembly**

Submitted from: **Maggie Tinsman, Chair NAHT, Legislative Advocacy Committee**

(Email): **maggie.tinsman@mchsi.com,** (C): **563-320-3395**

1. The NAHT requests that the Iowa legislature adopt a Safe Harbor Law that protects minors against prosecution for any crimes committed while they were trafficked. 31 states have already passed Safe Harbor Laws.

2. The NAHT requests that the Iowa legislature adopt legislation to enact the expungement of crimes committed by adult survivors which occurred while being trafficked. This would apply to both labor and sex trafficking victims of any age. This bill would make it much easier for survivors to get jobs and to successfully integrate back into society.

3. The NAHT requests that the Iowa legislature adopt legislation requiring schools to provide child sex abuse awareness and prevention for students, parents, and school employees. The NAHT is collaborating with Prevent Child Abuse Iowa and both organizations will work for passage of this legislation.

4. The NAHT requests that the Iowa legislature adopt legislation to add human trafficking victims to Iowa's Rape Shield Law. Iowa's Rape Shield Law (Rule 5.412 Sexual abuse cases; relevance of victim's past behavior) does not currently extend rape shield protection to victims of sex trafficking. Iowa should enact laws that provide protections for Iowa sex trafficking victims in the trial process.

5. The NAHT requests that the Iowa legislature adopt legislation to create uniform statewide local law enforcement authority regulating massage businesses. The American Massage Business Association, Iowa Chapter has initiated this proposed legislation. If adopted, this would allow local law enforcement in all jurisdictions to monitor massage businesses in order to root out elicit activities such as sex trafficking. The bill would mandate that law enforcement in all cities and towns take on this responsibility in addition to the 23 cities which currently have local anti-trafficking massage ordinances.

NAHT + SLAVERY

Website: **www.iowanaht.org**

Facebook Page: **www.facebook.com/IowaNAHT**

Blog Post: **Go to our website and tap "contact" and give us your email**

National Human Trafficking Hotline: **888-3737-888**

Statewide Iowa Crisis Line: **800-770-1650**