
Investor Support for Legislation Requiring Disclosure and Corporate Action on Human Trafficking Risks

The undersigned 112 faith-based investors, sustainable and responsible shareholders, pension funds and research organizations from around the globe with over \$1 trillion in assets under management express strong support for legislation that requires companies to disclose their policies and practices to address human rights-related risks within their global supply chains. Investors believe these risks are material and that corporations worldwide have a responsibility to disclose their efforts to mitigate them.

As such, we welcome the introduction of The Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act of 2015 (H.R.3226/S.1968). The bills, if enacted, would require companies with over \$100 million in worldwide gross receipts that report to the Securities and Exchange Commission to disclose measures they have taken to identify and address the risks of forced labor, human trafficking and the worst forms of child labor throughout their supply chains and, consequently, would have broad international impact. The bills would apply to all publicly traded or private entities in every sector.

According to the International Labour Organization, an estimated 20.9 million people globally are affected by human trafficking. This intractable abuse requires comprehensive legislation to level the playing field and move companies beyond voluntary disclosures.

H.R.3226/S.1968 comes against the backdrop of The California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010 and the law passed in the UK, The Modern Slavery Act of 2015, which calls for corporate disclosure on human trafficking mitigation efforts, including taking action to ensure their end-to-end supply chains are slavery free.

On March 2, 2015, the US Federal Acquisition Registry released the rules related to President Obama's Executive Order (13627) requiring all companies with government contracts to certify that they have done their due diligence in remediating modern slavery in their extended supply chain.


With the complexity of global supply chains and the multitude of contractors, recruiters and suppliers used throughout a production process, companies without comprehensive anti-trafficking protocols are exposed to a host of financial, legal and reputational risks with the potential to adversely impact shareholder value. Proactively addressing these risks can guard against the negative publicity, business interruptions, lawsuits, protests and reputational damage that may result from undetected human rights violations.

This legislation would not be burdensome for business, but would build on existing commitments to responsible corporate practice. Leading companies have been reporting human rights supply chain information for many years, which increasingly includes disclosures on human trafficking risks across

global operations.

Investors urge Members of the US House of Representatives and the Senate to co-sponsor and pass H.R.3226/S.1968. Given the egregious nature of this crime, a concerted and joint effort will be needed to make progress towards eliminating human rights abuses from supply chains.

Lead Signatories:



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Bernardine Franciscan Sisters Pennsylvania	Robeco Switzerland
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Catholic Health Initiatives Colorado	School Sisters of St. Francis Wisconsin
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Church of England Pensions Board United Kingdom	ShareAction United Kingdom
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Congregation of Holy Cross, Moreau Province, Austin, TX Texas	Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth New Jersey
Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes Wisconsin	Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine Ohio
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Diocese of Springfield, IL Illinois	Sisters of Province, Mother Joseph Province Leadership Team Washington
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Dominican Sisters of Springfield Illinois	Sisters of St Dominic New York
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First Affirmative Financial Network New York	Sisters of the Presentation of Aberdeen SD South Dakota
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration Wisconsin	Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary New York
Friends Fiduciary Corporation Pennsylvania	Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary - Monroe, Michigan Michigan
Green America Washington, DC	Social Justice Committee, UUCSR New York
Hermes Equity Ownership Services United Kingdom	Socially Responsible Investment Coalition Texas
Investing for the Soul Canada	Sonen Capital California
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust United Kingdom	Springfield Development Corporation Vermont
Justice Peace & Reconciliation Commission, Priests of the Sacred Heart, US Province	SSSF-US Province Wisconsin
KEPLER-FONDS KAG Austria	St. Joseph Health California
Local Authority Pension Fund Forum United Kingdom	Stephen Whipp Financial Canada
Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers New York	

Maryknoll Sisters
New York

Mercy Health
Ohio

Mercy Investments
Missouri

Midwest Coalition Responsible Investment
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Trinity Health
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Triodos Investment Management
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