



December 11, 2017

Chairman Bob Goodlatte  
2138 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Ann Wagner  
435 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Goodlatte and Representative Wagner,

I write to express Apple's support for the substitute amendment to the *Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act of 2017*. Sex trafficking is a horrific crime, and your bill would provide important new tools to fight it to both the federal and state governments, as well as to private litigants.

In particular, your bill directly targets the perpetrators of these crimes by creating new authority for federal and state criminal prosecution of a trafficker or website that facilitates trafficking. Stiff penalties and mandatory restitution provide stronger punishment and a swifter mechanism for monetary relief to victims. We believe the focus on criminal prosecution and an appropriate intent standard will help ensure that individuals intentionally facilitating sex trafficking will be apprehended and stopped. Importantly, the bill also clarifies that websites that create or develop the offending content can be held accountable by a civil action and should not be shielded by Section 230 of the *Communications Decency Act*.

As the legislative process continues, we look forward to working with you to further improve the bill. Thank you for your thoughtful approach to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C. Hogan', is written over the printed name and title of the signatory.

Cynthia C. Hogan  
Vice President for Public Policy, Americas  
Apple

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