

# PETER MEIJER

PROUDLY SERVING MICHIGAN'S **THIRD** DISTRICT

## **DHS Blue Campaign Enhancement Act (H.R. 2795)**

The Blue Campaign is a national public awareness campaign designed to educate the public, law enforcement and other industry partners to recognize the indicators of human trafficking, and how to appropriately respond to possible cases.<sup>1</sup> Human trafficking cases are often underreported due to the nature of this heinous crime, but increasing the public's ability to spot the signs will help prevent these indicators from being overlooked and save lives.

While the Blue Campaign works closely with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) components and other federal partners to combat human trafficking, it is often state and local law enforcement officers who are encountering victims and their traffickers firsthand. Individuals employed in industries outside law enforcement, from medical professionals to airline employees, are also more likely to encounter victims and need to know how to identify and respond to them. Increasing widespread public awareness is critical to expanding these efforts.

**Specifically, this bill requires the Director of the Blue Campaign to develop web-based interactive training videos and provide online training opportunities for federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement officers.** By increasing access to online trainings, these resources will be more widely available across the country to raise public awareness about the indicators of human trafficking and provide law enforcement with the expertise required to respond effectively.

**The bill also establishes a Blue Campaign Advisory Board within DHS to consult regularly with the Director on the development of effective awareness tools for distribution to industry partners that will help them identify and prevent instances of human trafficking.**

The advisory board would include representatives from each of the following DHS Components:

- Transportation Security Administration (TSA), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), U.S. Secret Service (USSS)

Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked worldwide – including right here in the U.S. It can happen in any community and victims can be any age, race, gender, or nationality. Help us effect change by reporting suspected human trafficking and calling Federal law enforcement at 1-866-347-2423. DHS Blue Campaign resources can be found [here](#).

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Homeland Security: [About the Blue Campaign](#)