



The Office of Congressman John Lewis
Representing the 5th Congressional District of Georgia

COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN DAY SLAVERY IN THE U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD

Congressman John Lewis represents the 5th Congressional District of Georgia which includes Metro Atlanta and the surrounding cities.

As a major transportation and business center, Atlanta was identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as a national human trafficking hub with some of the highest rates of child prostitution, commercial sexual exploitation, and human trafficking.

Human trafficking is one of the most prolific areas of international criminal activity and one of the greatest human rights tragedies of our age. In fact, there are more individuals living in forced labor today than during the entire period of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. Of the present-day victims, the overwhelming majority are women and children who are forced into sexual slavery, labor, marriage, and service as child soldiers.

As a Senior Member of the Ways and Means Committee, Congressman Lewis uses his seniority to address modern day slavery and labor rights in trade, health, and social programming policies. Particular efforts to combat modern day slavery and human trafficking include --

- **Sponsoring the bipartisan Congressional Commission on the Abolition of Modern-Day Slavery Act which was incorporated into Public Law No: 110-457, the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008;**
- **Introducing the U.S. Recommitment to International Human and Civil Rights resolution, which encourages the U.S. Senate to ratify key, core international conventions which particularly address forced labor, and women and children's rights;**
- **Repeatedly writing House and Senate Leaders urging immediate passage of legislation to update the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA), which is the most critical legislative toolbox to help the U.S. federal government combat modern day slavery in the U.S. and around the world;**
- **Contacting congressional leaders, Ways and Means Committees, and the Washington Diplomatic Corps urging that every public official rededicates themselves to combating human trafficking through all possible channels; and**
- **Hosting Emory University's Voyages creators for a congressional unveiling of the free interactive, Web-based archive containing more than 35,000 original documents from the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, and urging a recommitment to current, human rights struggles.**

Additionally, Rep. Lewis is an active Member of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, and the congressional caucuses on Human Trafficking, Victims' Rights, Missing and Exploited Children, and Labor and Working Families.