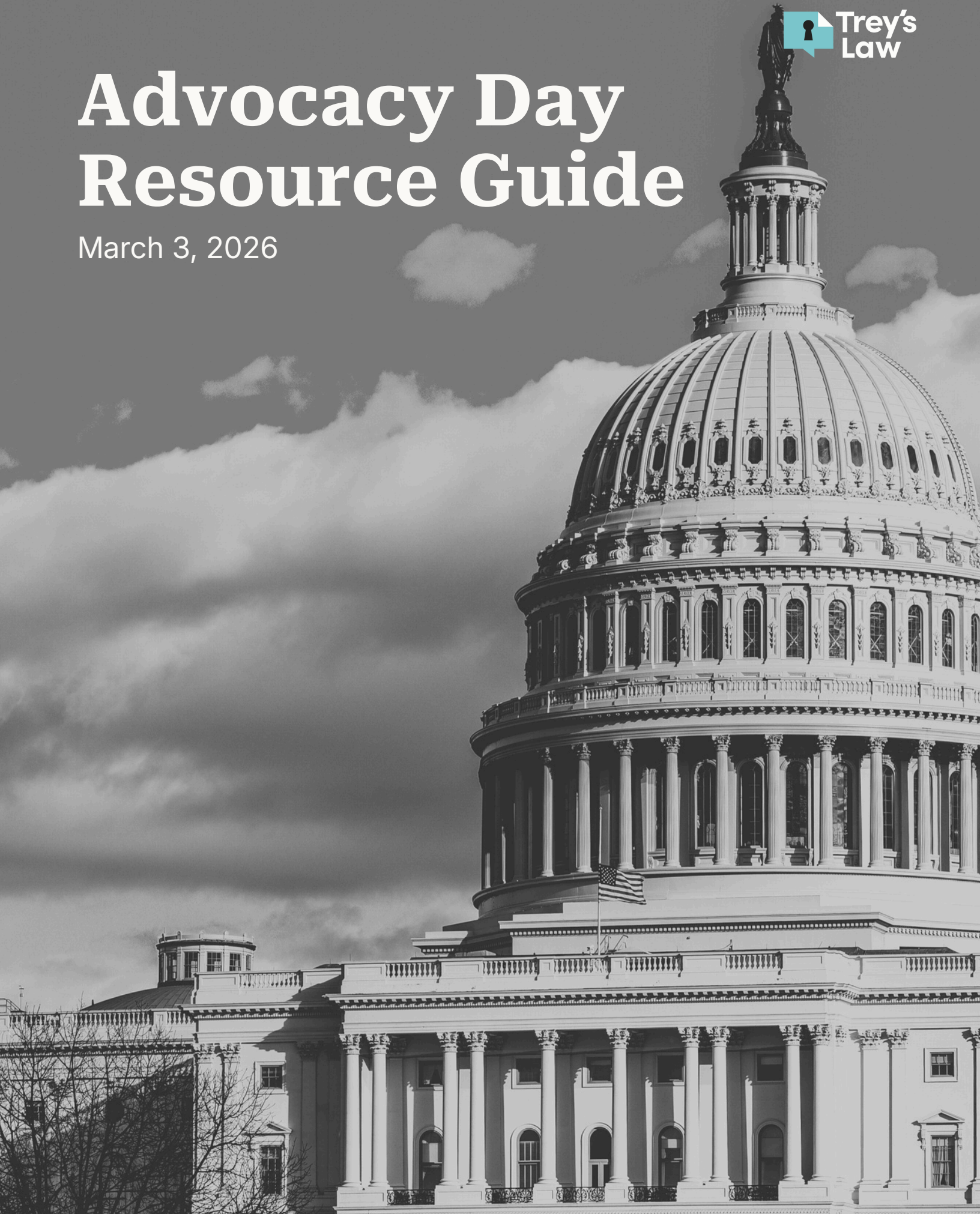


Advocacy Day Resource Guide

March 3, 2026



Trey's Law | Federal Bill Filing

Press Conference & Advocacy Day

March 3, 2026

Washington, D.C.

A Monumental Moment

On March 3rd, Senators Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Katie Britt (R-AL) will announce the introduction of a federal version of Trey's Law to U.S. Congress. This bipartisan public safety legislation led by Sens. Ted Cruz, Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Britt, and Schmitt (R-Mo.) will end the weaponization of NDAs to silence survivors of child sexual abuse and trafficking in civil settlement agreements.

Press Conference

11:15 am ET
U.S. Capitol
Room S-325

The press conference is confirmed for 11:15 am ET on March 3 inside the U.S. Capitol in Room S-325 (Senate side). The event will last approximately 30 minutes. Attire is business casual, and you will not have to give remarks (although you may be approached by media). The press conference will be filmed. Attendees should allow ample time to travel to the U.S. Capitol and complete mandatory security screening. Consult the [prohibited items list](#) to ensure compliance with Capitol visitor policies.

For those unable to attend but interested in following along, the press conference will be livestreamed on Senator Cruz's social channels.

Advocacy Day

*Immediately Following
Press Conference*

For the remainder of the day, individuals are encouraged to meet with their elected officials so that the conversation is relevant to their district and constituency. While we will have some meetings booked, participants may want to also schedule their own drop-ins. Limited support will be available to help direct and guide attendees around the Capitol Complex but we will distribute maps. We will also provide materials to leave behind. In meetings, stick to your own stories (your "why") and keep remarks brief. Most of these offices are used to a maximum of 10 minutes for a meeting with staff. More information is provided in this guide to help participants prepare for Advocacy Day.

End Silence. Expose Abusers. Protect Children. Save Lives.

treyslaw.org

Legislative Visits

Scheduling with Your Member of Congress

Every American is represented by 1 member of the House of Representatives and 2 members of the U.S. Senate. Visit your member's official website for contact information to schedule a meeting.

- You can find your U.S. Representative's website by [clicking this link](#) and entering your zip code.
- You can find your U.S. Senators' websites by [clicking this link](#) and selecting your state.

The Trey's Law team is working to coordinate a small number of meetings on behalf of advocates and will communicate directly with confirmed attendees about that option. We also encourage participants to reach out to their elected officials to schedule drop-ins. Call your legislator's office and ask to speak with the scheduler. Most offices will require that you send a "meeting request" via email to the scheduler or through a contact portal on the legislator's website. A sample scheduling email can be found on the following page.

Ideally, meeting requests are made several weeks out; unfortunately, this is not possible with the quick turnaround time for the filing of TREY'S Act. It is acceptable to follow-up on your meeting request via phone call after a couple days, but remain courteous.

If you are not able to confirm a meeting with your Member of Congress, you may stop by the office to drop off materials; however, do not expect that they will be able to accommodate a drop-in meeting. If schedules do not permit a meeting during Advocacy Day, you may also explore setting up a meeting at another time in the local district office in your community.

Sample E-Mail to Scheduler

Subject: Meeting Request - 3.3.26 - Trey's Law Advocacy Day

Dear [Scheduler's Name],

My name is [Your Name], and I am a constituent from [City, State] (ZIP: [XXXXXX]). I am writing to request a meeting with [Representative/Senator Name] or the appropriate staff member during our Advocacy Day on March 3.

I will be on Capitol Hill that day with a group of advocates to discuss TREY'S Act, legislation focused on ending this misuse of NDAs against child sexual abuse and trafficking victims in civil settlement agreements.

We would welcome 15 minutes to provide a brief overview of the legislation and share why this issue matters to constituents in [State/District]. [If there are multiple individuals planning to attend, list their names, organization (if applicable), and City/State.]

Our availability on March 3 is between [Time Range]. Please let me know if there is a convenient time to meet, or if we should coordinate directly with the relevant legislative staffer.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate the opportunity to connect.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Phone Number]
[Email Address]

Before Your Meeting

Do some basic research if you can. Check whether a version of Trey's Law has been *introduced in your state*. Learn the legislator's committee assignments and review general biographical information on their website - you never know what personal connection might pop up and help with building interest and momentum.

Collect materials from the Trey's Law team at the federal press conference on the morning of March 3. Fact sheets and small tokens of appreciation will be available to leave behind for legislative offices.

During the Legislative Visit

Share a brief 1 to 2 minute introduction that includes who you are, where you live, and why this legislation matters to you. Personal stories and local impact are extremely powerful. Time is limited in these visits so aim to keep the conversation concise and polite. If you do not know the answer to a question, it's perfectly acceptable to say so. Offer to follow up or refer them to treyslaw.org for more information. Share the TREY'S Act one-pager and the materials provided by the Trey's Law team and refer to those if helpful during the meeting.

Sample Talking Points

- TREY'S Act seeks to end the misuse of NDAs against child sexual abuse and trafficking victims in civil settlement agreements. It applies to minor victims (under age 18) and is retroactive.
- NDAs were created to protect trade secrets, intellectual property and other confidential corporate data but have since been misused to suppress survivors' stories and shield bad actors from accountability. Civil claims like negligence and gross negligence don't meet criminal standards, which is why reform is necessary.
- NDAs in child sexual abuse and trafficking cases have become standard practice within personal injury law and remain a lawful form of "hush money." A victim's voice should never be for sale.
- Perpetrators and liable institutions weaponize NDAs to prohibit survivors from ever speaking about their abuse or discovery in a civil case once it's settled, and that's contrary to public interest.
- NDAs in civil child sexual abuse and trafficking cases:
 - Protect perpetrators and negligent/liable institutions
 - Conceal abuse and hide discovery from the public
 - Harm adults and children who are unaware of bad actors
 - Prevent justice and healing by muzzling victims, censoring truth, and inhibiting survivors' freedom of speech
- Versions of this law have passed in 5 different states (California, Tennessee, Missouri, Texas, and Alabama) and 7 more states have filed Trey's Law legislation this session. Now, U.S. Congress!

Social Media

Share Your Voice Online

Social media helps amplify our message, show momentum, and demonstrate broad public support. We encourage you to post before, during, and after Advocacy Day. Use the hashtags: #TruthSetFree and #TreysLaw. Tag your Member of Congress - most are active on X, Instagram, and/or Facebook.

What to share:

- Why you're in Washington, DC
- Why this issue matters to you
- Footage and photos from the press conference
- Photos from your meetings (ask permission from legislative staff)
- A thank you to Members of Congress who met with you about Trey's Law



Sample Captions

I'm on Capitol Hill today advocating for TREY'S Act. Five states have already passed similar legislation and it's time to see #TruthSetFree across the entire country. #TreysLaw

Thank you @[MemberHandle] for meeting with us today to discuss TREY'S Act. We appreciate your time and leadership on this issue. #TruthSetFree #TreysLaw

Proud to stand with advocates and lawmakers this morning to support TREY'S Act. Silence protects abusers; transparency protects children. #TruthSetFree #TreysLaw

Miscellaneous

General Tips & Reminders

- Build buffer time into your schedule - this includes travel to the Capitol and offices in other buildings, security screening, and walking between meetings. Map routes ahead of time if you can.
- Dress professionally but comfortably, especially considering your choice of shoes for significant walking.
- Offices usually have a maximum of 10-15 minutes for a meeting. Consider what you want to say ahead of time so you can be concise and impactful.
- Meetings will typically be with legislative staff and not the elected representative - this is normal and still meaningful.
- If you have a personal connection to an elected legislator, book that meeting in advance and as soon as possible.
- Be friendly and courteous in your tone and language. Staff appreciate respectful and clear and concise communication. **Ask for their support!**
- Don't forget to follow up after your meeting with a thank you email.

Resources for Navigating the U.S. Capitol

- [U.S. Capitol Map](#)
- [Prohibited Items at the U.S. Capitol](#)
- [Metro System Map](#)

Materials for Legislative Visits

Copies of the TREY'S Act one-pager and FAQs provided on the following pages will be available at the press conference. Please pick up these materials to share with staff during your legislative visits. You may also find it useful to review these materials in advance.

Plan on packing a snack or lunch, as food options in the Capitol Complex are limited and may not be conveniently located. We also recommend bringing a water bottle or anything else you may need throughout the day that would otherwise require you to leave the building.

We are so grateful for your voice and action to ensure NDAs in civil courts end with us when it comes to child sexual abuse and trafficking. Every voice and every meeting matters! Please refer any questions to info@treyslaw.org.

TREY'S Act

End the misuse of NDAs against child sexual abuse and trafficking victims in civil settlement agreements.

Trey Carlock was a victim of child sexual abuse at Kanakuk Kamps, based in Southwest Missouri, for over a decade. After their camp director and serial sex offender, Pete Newman, was sentenced to three life terms in 2010, Trey pursued justice to hold others involved accountable through civil litigation. That retraumatizing process ended with a restrictive and intimidating nondisclosure agreement (NDA) as part of the settlement terms, barring Trey from ever speaking about his abuse and Kanakuk Ministries' role in it. Trey died by suicide at the age of 28 after telling a therapist, "They will always control me, and I'll never be free." **His story sparked a movement of others coming forward about institutional abuse, and survivors suffering in the shadows are rising up to say victims' voices should never be for sale.**



The Problem

NDAs were created to protect trade secrets, intellectual property and other proprietary information. They have since been weaponized against victims to settle civil child sexual abuse and trafficking cases in civil courts. As a result:

- Perpetrators and institutions can protect their reputations.
- Survivors are legally silenced from speaking about the abuse they endured and all the parties involved.
- Patterns of abuse remain hidden from the public and children are unknowingly exposed to danger.
- Survivors are denied access to freedom, justice and healing when they can't share their stories on their own terms.

The Solution

TREY'S Act renders NDAs void and unenforceable to the extent they prohibit a survivor from disclosing facts related to child sexual abuse and trafficking. This act:

- Protects the right of survivors to speak about their abuse.
- Prohibits the contractual silencing of witnesses, bystanders, and other protective parties as a matter of public safety.
- Preserves confidentiality for other matters, including settlement amounts and a victim's identifying information.
- Applies regardless of when the agreement was signed.
- Children are safe because harms are no longer hidden.

Frequently Asked Questions

1 What is Trey's Law?

Trey's Law prohibits the misuse of nondisclosure agreements (NDAs) and similar secrecy provisions in civil child sexual abuse and trafficking cases. The goal is simple: survivors should never be legally silenced with an NDA limiting what they can say about abuse they've endured- and it's against public interest to shield bad actors, whether predators or unsafe institutions, from accountability through this censorship mechanism.

2 Why do NDAs exist in child sexual abuse cases?

NDAs were originally created to protect trade secrets, intellectual property, and other confidential data. They have since become standard practice and weaponized against victims when settling claims of childhood sexual abuse. Survivors often need restitution for a lifelong healing journey requiring therapy and other support, but in return, a defendant often demands they never speak about the abuse they endured and all parties responsible. This lawful "hush money" perpetuates abuse and protects the reputation of perpetrators and liable institutions, while silencing survivors and inhibiting their healing.

3 What are victims typically prohibited from saying in these NDAs?

NDAs in civil settlements related to child sexual abuse and trafficking take many forms and vary in length. Some NDAs are included in the settlement agreement as a paragraph-long clause or provision, while others are multi-page standalone agreements. It is common for these NDAs to prohibit the victim from disclosing any information or terms of the settlement, details regarding the incident(s) of abuse, and any public or private statements that criticize the Defendant(s) or portray them in a negative light.

4 How many children are silenced by these types of NDAs?

NDAs may be established while the survivor is still a minor (typically signed by a guardian or parent in that context), but others are not established until the child abuse survivor is an adult, and they realize what happened to them. It is well-established that barriers such as shame, fear, or stigma often result in survivors waiting years or decades to tell anyone about their abuse. Due to the nature of confidentiality provisions, it is unknown how many survivors are currently subject to NDAs. However, NDAs have become standard practice in personal injury law and especially in the settlement of child sexual abuse claims. This isn't only harmful to the victim; it's against public interest.

5 How does Trey's Law relate to the Speak Out Act?

The Speak Out Act was passed federally in 2022 and prohibits the use of pre-dispute NDAs for survivors and witnesses of sexual harassment and assault in the workplace. While this landmark legislation restricts the misuse of NDAs for adults, it does not apply to child sexual abuse and trafficking victims. The Speak Out Act is only relevant to victims of sexual harassment in workplace contexts and solely eliminates the misuse of NDAs in employment agreements enacted prior to a dispute.

6

Aren't NDAs already unenforceable if they prevent reporting a crime?

NDAs may be deemed unenforceable or void by a court when a Defendant attempts to suppress a victim reporting a crime or cooperating in a criminal investigation. Trey's Law remains critical because there are many other legitimate reasons why a survivor would need to speak about their abuse, outside a criminal investigation or reporting to law enforcement. Many survivors are placed under NDAs by institutions for civil claims that do not arise to a violation of criminal law. Additionally, NDAs are commonly used in settlement negotiations regardless of enforceability, especially as an intimidation tool and negotiation tactic. U.S. Congress should protect survivor voices by passing TREY'S Act to ensure the civil law is clear rather than relying on case law or court interpretations.

7

How does Trey's Law affect criminal cases?

Trey's Law applies civil settlement agreements and NDA provisions specifically. It does not change criminal penalties or procedures. However, giving survivors freedom to share their stories may very well increase the detection of serial offenders who should face criminal consequences. Often times, that information arises in civil discovery.

8

What about survivors who want privacy or confidentiality?

The goal of Trey's Law is to give survivors power and agency over their own stories after enduring childhood trauma. While each state's bill language is different, nothing should prohibit unilateral confidentiality provisions that protect victims' identities or other details they'd prefer to keep private, such as graphic descriptions of their abuse. Survivors should be able to decide what is shared publicly about their story, not those who harmed them. Trey's Law only seeks to ensure no one can force them into silence—not an abuser, not a liable institution, and not a legal contract that feels like a bribe.

9

Will survivors receive smaller settlements if NDAs are not allowed?

There is no evidence to indicate that settlement amounts are impacted by the omission of NDAs in these cases. Several states have passed a version of Trey's Law, so we know in practice that removing the NDA does not affect settlement value. A 2025 study explored the impact of NDA reform by examining quantitative data on a large volume of cases in California and incorporated qualitative interview data with practitioners in the state. The findings indicate that "the elimination of NDAs does not seem to have depressed settlement sums." ([Engstrom, et al., 2025](#)).

10

Who supports this legislation?

Trey's Law has seen support from survivors, child protection advocates, attorneys, mental health professionals, and other subject matter experts. Faith organizations, such as the Texas Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Texas General Baptist Convention, testified in support of this legislation in Texas. This legislation passed unanimously in Missouri, Texas, and Alabama, and it garnered broad bipartisan and coalition support throughout the legislative process.