WOLF TRAFFICKING & HUMAN RIGHTS BILL & LANGUAGE IN FINAL FY 2012 CJS

FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT:

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

Human trafficking.—The conferees direct the Department to maintain funding for the Human Trafficking and Slavery Prosecution Unit (HTSPU) in the Civil Rights Division at not less than the fiscal year 2011 funding level to continue efforts to fight human trafficking and slavery.

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Human rights crimes.—The conferees remain concerned about the large number of suspected human rights violators from foreign countries who have found safe haven in the United States, and direct the Criminal Division to continue its efforts to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of serious human rights crimes, including genocide, torture, use or recruitment of child soldiers, and war crimes. For this purpose, the conferees direct the Department to provide not less than the fiscal year 2011 funding level for attorneys, analysts, and support personnel in the Criminal Division to investigate and prosecute individuals who violate Federal laws regarding serious human rights abuses.

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SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

Human trafficking.—The conference agreement includes language directing each U.S. Attorney to establish or participate in a U.S. Attorney-led human trafficking task force. In instances where it may be preferable, due to geographical or other considerations, to operate joint human trafficking task forces, joint task forces representing no more than two U.S. Attorneys' offices will satisfy the requirement.

The conferees direct such task forces to engage law enforcement, elected leadership, civic and faith-based groups and to convene quarterly, working-level meetings where Federal, State and local law enforcement are represented. Task force meetings should focus specifically on combating human trafficking, with an emphasis on undertaking proactive investigations. Such investigations shall include, for example, the investigation of persons or entities facilitating trafficking in persons through the use of classified advertising on the Internet. The conferees also direct the Department to submit an annual report to the Committees on Appropriations regarding the work of these task forces. This report shall

detail the range of efforts by the task forces, and include information on the use of classified advertising on the Internet to facilitate trafficking and a description of policies and task force actions that respond to such practices.

The conferees further direct the EOUSA, in consultation with each U.S. Attorney, to designate a point of contact in each U.S. Attorney's office who shall serve as the coordinator for all activities within that office concerning human trafficking and slavery matters covered by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

In addition, the conferees adopt language in the House report directing the Department to undertake outreach efforts in the form of public notices, such as newspaper advertisements, in ethnic communities in the U.S., the home countries of which represent the top ten countries with regard to the prevalence of human trafficking activities and to report to the Committees on Appropriations regarding such outreach efforts.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Trafficking in persons.—The conferees agree that, within the funding provided, the FBI shall increase activities related to the investigation of severe forms of trafficking in persons. The FBI shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act on agent utilization and overall staff resources dedicated to trafficking investigations in fiscal years 2010, 2011 and 2012. In addition, the conferees expect the FBI to share trafficking case information on an ongoing basis with other law enforcement agencies and task forces working similar cases. The conferees agree that funds shall be used for conducting investigations into trafficking and slavery and providing victim witness coordinators on an emergency basis when needed.

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Human rights violations.—The conferees direct the FBI to increase efforts to investigate and support DOJ's criminal prosecution of serious human rights crimes committed by foreign nationals who are in the United States.

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OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

Human trafficking.—The conference agreement includes \$10,500,000 for human trafficking task force activities and services for U.S. citizens, permanent residents and foreign nationals who are victims of trafficking. The conferees expect that the human

trafficking task forces funded by the Department will continue to bring together Federal, State and local law enforcement and victim services organizations to investigate all forms of human trafficking and assist the victims. OJP shall consult with stakeholder groups in determining the overall allocation of Victims of Trafficking funding, including with respect to amounts allocated to assist foreign national victims, and provide to the Committees on Appropriations a plan for the use of these funds as part of the Department's fiscal year 2012 spending plan. The plan should be guided by the best information available on the regions of the United States with the highest incidence of trafficking.

FINAL HOUSE REPORT (IS ENACTED WITH CONFERENCE REPORT):

Human trafficking task forces.—Although great strides have been made in combating sex trafficking and other forms of human trafficking, DOJ can and must do a better job of investigating and prosecuting these crimes. Human trafficking is a serious Federal civil rights crime and the Committee believes that combating it must be a top priority of not only DOJ, but also of State and local governments. The Committee recommendation includes language directing each U.S. Attorney to establish a regional human trafficking task force. The Committee directs such task forces to engage law enforcement, elected leadership, civic groups and faith-based groups and to convene quarterly, working-level meetings where Federal, State and local law enforcement are represented. Task force meetings should focus specifically on combating human trafficking, with an emphasis on undertaking proactive investigations. The Committee directs the Department to submit an annual report regarding the work of these task forces.

In addition, the Committee directs the Department of Justice to undertake outreach efforts in the form of public notices, such as newspaper advertisements, in ethnic communities in the U.S., the home countries of which represent the top ten countries with regard to the prevalence of human trafficking activities. These efforts shall be designed to increase awareness of what constitutes human trafficking crimes and provide information on how assistance can be obtained, with the objective being the discovery and rescue of victims and the identification and prosecution of offenders. The Committee further directs the Department to report to the Com- mittee regarding such outreach efforts. (50)

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DOJ Human trafficking.—The Committee recommendation includes not less than the fiscal year 2011 funding level for the Human Trafficking and Slavery Prosecution Unit (HTSPU) in the Civil Rights Division to fight human trafficking and slavery. (49)

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FBI Human trafficking.—Within funding provided, the Committee expects the Bureau to increase activities related to the investigation of severe forms of trafficking in persons. The FBI shall submit a report to the Committee no later than 120 days after the enactment of

this Act on agent utilization and overall staff resources dedicated to trafficking between fiscal years 2010 and 2012. In addition, the Committee expects the Bureau to share trafficking case information on an ongoing basis with other law enforcement agencies and task forces working similar cases. (53)

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Human trafficking grants—The Committee recommendation includes \$10,500,000 for services for victims of human trafficking, and for task force activities, which is \$500,000 above the request. The United States is a destination country for thousands of men, women, and children trafficked largely from Mexico and East Asia, as well as countries in South Asia, Central America, Africa, and Europe, for the purposes of sexual and labor exploitation. As trafficking victims are subjected to many forms of physical, mental, and sexual abuse, victims need various types of assistance to begin healing and recovery including counseling, housing, medical care, support groups, and legal assistance. According to NIJ, the Department of Justice has funded 42 jurisdictions and 36 trafficking victim services providers to form human trafficking task forces to identify and rescue victims of trafficking by proactively investigating such cases. The Committee expects that these task forces will continue to bring together Federal, State and local law enforcement and victim services organizations to investigate all forms of human trafficking and assist the victims. The Committee encourages the Department to continue to support services for U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and foreign nationals who are victims of trafficking through the funding provided. (63