

July 14, 2026

The Honorable Tim Scott
Chairman
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
Ranking Member
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Protecting Victims of Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation in the CLARITY Act

Dear Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Warren:

On behalf of the undersigned faith leaders, we write to urge Congress to ensure that any digital asset legislation includes strong protections to prevent human traffickers, child exploiters, and other criminal actors from using cryptocurrency to profit from abuse, hide their proceeds, and evade accountability.

As faith leaders, we believe every person is made in the image of God and deserves to live free from exploitation, coercion, and abuse. Human trafficking and child exploitation are grave assaults on human dignity. They are also crimes driven by money. Traffickers and exploiters rely on financial systems to advertise victims, receive payments, move profits, conceal ownership, and sustain criminal networks. When financial trails disappear, victims are harder to find, perpetrators are harder to prosecute, and stolen proceeds are more difficult to recover.

We recognize that Congress is working to provide clearer rules for cryptocurrency and digital assets. Clear rules are important, and we support responsible innovation that strengthens America's economy while protecting consumers and encouraging legitimate technological development. But clarity should not create loopholes that allow bad actors to move money in the shadows. Any federal framework should ensure that the parts of the digital asset marketplace that handle, move, exchange, or profit from people's money have reasonable responsibilities to help prevent serious criminal activity.

As currently written, we are concerned that the CLARITY Act may leave gaps that could be exploited by traffickers, child exploiters, and other criminal organizations. We respectfully encourage Congress to consider amendments that strengthen protections against human trafficking, child exploitation, money laundering, and related criminal activity while preserving responsible innovation in digital assets. If a service is helping people move money, and if it is in a position to detect or prevent abuse, it should have reasonable obligations to do so.

Congress should also make sure the bill does not weaken the government's ability to respond to tools that are specifically used to hide criminal proceeds. Traffickers, child exploiters, fraud rings, and other criminal networks look for places where money can be moved without questions, records, or accountability. The law should not create safe harbors for services that make it easier to conceal where money came from, where it is going, or who controls it.

Finally, the bill should preserve the tools law enforcement needs to follow the money, identify victims, recover funds, and hold perpetrators accountable. That means ensuring that responsible businesses keep appropriate records, report red flags, respond quickly to lawful requests, and cannot simply move offshore while continuing to serve people in the United States.

Congress can support innovation without sacrificing the vulnerable. We believe America can remain the world leader in financial innovation while ensuring that new technologies are not exploited by traffickers, child exploiters, fraudsters, or other criminal enterprises. Before advancing the CLARITY Act, we respectfully urge Congress to strengthen the bill so that it better protects victims, supports law enforcement, and helps ensure that cryptocurrency is never used as a shield for exploitation.

Respectfully,

Jesus Marquez (Executive Director American Christian Caucus)
Pastor Grey Seymour (Calvary Red Rock Church)
Jimmy Morales (Senior Pastor Fervant Church)