

## **A Model Act for State Governments**

# **States Can Investigate and Prosecute Child Sex Trafficking Suspects Referenced within the Epstein Files**

**Purpose:** States can investigate crimes for sex trafficking, sexual abuse, and related criminal conduct connected to Jeffrey Epstein, Ghislaine Maxwell, or any associate, accomplice, or co-conspirator, when such conduct occurred within or affected the residents of the state.

**Source:** The “Child Sex Trafficking Investigation and Accountability Act,” empowers state governments and their attorneys general to do what our federal government is refusing: Hold criminals accountable for these heinous acts.

**Summary:** More than three million pages, and tens of thousands of photos, diagrams and other evidence of sex abuse and trafficking in multiple states, were released by the U.S. Dept. of Justice pursuant to the Epstein Files Transparency Act. These documents include testimony from survivors under oath that implicate specific individuals. The U.S. Attorney General refuses to act on evidence within these files. Evidence implicates powerful politicians, corporate leaders, and people of extreme wealth. Americans are demanding accountability but are met with silence and obfuscation.

It is notable that multiple foreign nations, including Turkey, Lithuania, and Latvia, opened criminal investigations based on the same publicly released materials within days of their publication. No American state has commenced comparable investigations.

The Supreme Court has ruled that a state prosecution for conduct that also violates federal law constitutes a separate offense. Neither sovereign’s decision to prosecute nor decline prosecution bars the other. Sex trafficking of children is among the most serious criminal offenses, and failure of federal authorities to act does not diminish the state’s obligation to its residents, and particularly to the survivors who have already come forward at great personal cost.

This model Act statutorily defines jurisdiction, investigative authority, compelled testimony and immunity, and other key statutory imperatives to fully investigate and prosecute these crimes. The Act is based on existing state laws, case law, and legal rulings and opinions. It fulfills state responsibilities to prosecute what the federal government is not and legitimizes the rights of victims to seek justice.

This model Act was researched, written, and reviewed by legal and policy experts who can provide support to political leaders considering application of the act. This model Act, and others that implement or strengthen state authority to resist federal overreach or protect citizens from federal failures, are available upon request.

*For questions, implementation guidance, or to report on adoption progress:*

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