



**DENVER ANTI-TRAFFICKING ALLIANCE | SPECIAL PROGRAMS UNIT, DENVER DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE | WWW.DENVERALLIANCE.ORG**

NEWS RELEASE

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COLORADO ONE OF “MOST IMPROVED” STATES ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Colorado’s new human trafficking laws passed earlier this year have resulted in a top ranking for the state, with recognition as one of the most improved states for 2014. The new laws improve the ability to more effectively prosecute human trafficking cases and in turn secure justice for more victims.

Prior to the changes in state law, Colorado ranked among the worst states, with laws that lacked essential components against human trafficking, according to Polaris, a Washington D.C.-based trafficking policy and victim advocacy group.

“This new rating is indicative of the dedication of legislators and hard work of stakeholders that provided feedback, support and testimony for HB14-1273 through DATA’s Statewide Public Policy Committee. We are thrilled to see Colorado with a Tier 1 rating and look forward to further progress on state legislation through the new Governor’s Human Trafficking Council,” stated DATA Director, Becky Bullard.

The Denver Anti-Trafficking Alliance (DATA) has been working since 2012 to address gaps in Colorado’s law through its Statewide Public Policy Committee and supported House Bill 14-1273, which passed in April. It provides a comprehensive definition of human trafficking, extends the Rape Shield Act to human trafficking victims, makes sex trafficking of a minor a sex offense against a child, creates mandatory restitution where appropriate and creates a Colorado Human Trafficking Council to further coordinate statewide anti-trafficking efforts.

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