



Talking Points: ‘Vacating Convictions’ Bill! Contacting State Senators

- 1) **Find your State Senator.** Go to <http://prototype.nytimes.com/represent>.
 - a. **Are they a sponsor of the Bill?** Click [here](#) for sponsors.
- 2) **Call their Albany office.** Ask to speak with someone about Bill S4429, concerning vacating convictions of prostitution from the records of victims of sex trafficking.
- 3) **Tell the staff-member your name, what organization you represent, and if you live or work in the district.**
- 4) **If your Senator is a sponsor of Bill S4429,** thank them for their support and let them know why this matters to you, your organization or community.
- 5) **If your Senator is NOT a sponsor or supporter of the bill,** tell the staff-member you are calling to ask the Senator to vote YES on Bill S4429 on the Senate Floor.

TALKING POINTS

- Explain that the bill will help survivors of trafficking remove past convictions of prostitution from their criminal records.
- You have learned from advocates that victims of trafficking into prostitution are often arrested and convicted for prostitution, even though they did prostitution under force or coercion.
- Access to immigration status, housing, employment, and parental rights are a few of the challenges they face because of legal barriers or stigma.
- This bill will let survivors of trafficking bring a motion to vacate convictions of prostitution. It would only apply to survivors of trafficking.
- This bill has a broad list of supporters, including the New York City Bar Association, the Urban Justice Center, the New York Anti-Trafficking Network, the Polaris Project, and the Sex Workers Outreach Project.
- Tell your representative why this matters to you or your organization or community.
- **End by asking the Senator to vote YES on Bill S4429 on the Senate Floor.**