

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives assembled in Parliament

The petition of certain citizens of Australia draws to the attention of the House:

In 2005 Australia ratified the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children* supplementing the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime*.

Article 6.6 of the Protocol states:

Each State Party shall ensure that its domestic legal system contains measures that offer victims of trafficking in persons the possibility of obtaining compensation for damaged suffered.

However, Australia has failed to provide direct avenues for survivors to pursue compensation.

While Australia has recognised that there have been over 175 victims of human trafficking to Australia since 2004, only a handful have been able to obtain compensation through State Government crimes compensation schemes.

Your petitioners therefore ask the House to:

Fulfil Australia's international obligation through the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children* to provide compensation to survivors of human trafficking as victims of a serious crime. This should be done through a legislated Commonwealth compensation scheme for the purpose unless an adequate alternative arrangement can be made.