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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a Blue Campaign Certification Program to encourage employers in covered industries to encourage employees to complete training to recognize and respond to suspected human trafficking, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. VALADAO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a Blue Campaign Certification Program to encourage employers in covered industries to encourage employees to complete training to recognize and respond to suspected human trafficking, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Human Trafficking
5 Awareness Training Recognition Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. AWARD.**

2 The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231
3 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 434 the fol-
4 lowing:

5 **“SEC. 434A. BLUE CAMPAIGN CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.**

6 “(a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—Not later than one
7 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the
8 Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a Blue
9 Campaign Certification Program (in this section referred
10 to as the ‘Program’) to encourage efforts by employers
11 in covered industries to encourage employees to complete
12 training to recognize and respond to suspected human
13 trafficking. The Secretary shall provide a certificate of
14 completion to eligible employers.

15 “(b) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

16 “(1) SOLICITATION OF APPLICATIONS.—During
17 each year in which the Secretary provides a certifi-
18 cate of completion, the Secretary shall solicit appli-
19 cations, beginning not later than January 31 and
20 ending not earlier than April 30, from employers to
21 consider whether such employers should receive such
22 certificate.

23 “(2) REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.—The Sec-
24 retary, in consultation with the Director of Home-
25 land Security Investigations, shall review each appli-
26 cation received in a year.

1 “(3) CONTENTS OF APPLICATIONS.—The Sec-
2 retary shall require each employer who submits an
3 application to provide in such application—

4 “(A) information about the training to rec-
5 ognize and respond to suspected human traf-
6 ficking that such employer provided to the em-
7 ployees of such employer; and

8 “(B) any other information the Secretary
9 determines appropriate.

10 “(c) RECOGNITION OF RECIPIENTS.—

11 “(1) ISSUANCE OF AWARDS.—The Secretary
12 shall provide a certificate of completion to each em-
13 ployer whom the Secretary determines is eligible.
14 The certificate of completion shall state that the re-
15 cipient may display such certificate for a 1-year pe-
16 riod beginning on the date on which such certificate
17 is provided.

18 “(2) NOTICE IN FEDERAL REGISTER.—The
19 Secretary shall recognize each such recipient
20 through publication in the Federal Register.

21 “(d) PROHIBITED DISPLAY.—It is prohibited for any
22 employer to publicly display a Blue Campaign Certifi-
23 cation of Completion—

24 “(1) for the purpose of conveying, or in a man-
25 ner reasonably calculated to convey, a false impres-

1 sion that the employer completed the Blue Cam-
2 paign Certification Program, if such employer did
3 not complete such Program; or

4 “(2) for the purpose of conveying, or in a man-
5 ner reasonably calculated to convey, a false impres-
6 sion that the employer received a certificate of com-
7 pletion through the Blue Campaign Certification
8 Program for a year for which such employer did not
9 receive such certificate.

10 “(e) REPORTS.—During each year beginning not
11 later than two years after the date of the enactment of
12 this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee
13 on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives
14 and the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-
15 mental Affairs of the Senate, a report on the Program,
16 including—

17 “(1) the number of employers who submitted an
18 application for Blue Campaign Certification in the
19 prior year;

20 “(2) the fees collected under subsection (f) from
21 such employers, and any changes in fees to be pro-
22 posed in the present year;

23 “(3) the number of Blue Campaign Certifi-
24 cations of Completion provided in the prior year, in-

1 cluding the name of each employer to whom a Blue
2 Campaign Certification of Completion was awarded;

3 “(4) the cost of administering the Program in
4 the prior year; and

5 “(5) any other matter the Secretary determines
6 appropriate.

7 “(f) AUTHORIZATION FOR APPLICATION FEES.—The
8 Secretary is authorized to establish a reasonable fee to be
9 imposed on employers submitting applications for a Blue
10 Campaign Certification of Completion to cover the cost of
11 carrying out the Program.

12 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 “(1) COVERED INDUSTRY.—The term ‘covered
14 industry’ means any industry that the Secretary has
15 determined—

16 “(A) has a relatively high prevalence of
17 human trafficking; and

18 “(B) that human trafficking awareness
19 training could have a significant impact.

20 “(2) EMPLOYER.—The term ‘employer’ has the
21 meaning given such term in section 3 of the Fair
22 Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203), ex-
23 cept that such term does not include a public agency
24 (as defined in such section 3).

1 “(3) HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—The term ‘human
2 trafficking’ has the meaning given the term ‘severe
3 forms of trafficking in person’ in section 103 of the
4 Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22
5 U.S.C. 7102).

6 “(4) SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—
7 The term ‘Secretary of Homeland Security’ means
8 the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through
9 the Director of the Blue Campaign.

10 “(5) TRAINING.—The term ‘training’ means the
11 training to recognize and respond to suspected
12 human trafficking.”.

13 **SEC. 3. BLUE CAMPAIGN.**

14 Section 434(e) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
15 (6 U.S.C. 242(e)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (7), by striking “and” at the
17 end;

18 (2) by redesignating paragraph (8) as para-
19 graph (9); and

20 (3) by inserting after paragraph (7) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(8) increased coordination with experts from
23 the private sector, academic institutions, and other
24 covered industries (as such term is defined in section
25 434A).”.