



11 February 2021

House Health & Human Services Committee-

Through community alliances SWOP Behind Bars has been asked to comment on H5270.

Our response is simple in that this effort has the potential to harm victims seeking safe harbor while vulnerable.

COYOTE RI has conducted current research on sex trafficking and sex work surveying "people involved in the sex industry". The data has been archived at Brown University, Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women- Coyote RI Survey Collection. Policy decisions should be based on evidence-based research. We encourage training inclusive of creating compassionate harm reduction policies based on evidence-based research and peer support.

Thank you for including our comment in support of local COYOTEri sex worker lived and led efforts. For more information on

SWOP Behind Bars please direct email to m.dante@swopbehindbars.org. Regards: Ms. Dante for SWOP Behind Bars