

Sample Letter to Representative:

Date

Mayor Betsy Price
1000 Throckmorton St.
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Dear Mayor Price:

I am deeply concerned about the increasing demand for commercial sex in our community. I am writing to urge your department to consider drafting stronger anti-trafficking provisions into our local ordinances to combat the growing demand for commercial sex online, in sexually oriented businesses, and on the street. Additionally, I would like to see an increased effort by our local police departments to investigate and arrest purchasers of commercial sex.

I strongly believe that a human being is not a commodity to be bought or sold by another human being for profit. Although the Texas Penal Code provides criminal sanctions to punish both the crimes of prostitution and solicitation, these laws are not being appropriately enforced. The demand for sexual services of underage girls continues to rise on sites such as Backpage.com and the Dallas Police Department estimates that on average, 400 trafficked teenagers are working the streets of Dallas each night. Additionally, in 2013, the Texas Attorney General looked at the intersection between sexually oriented businesses and human trafficking and found that there was overwhelming circumstantial evidence linking the two together stating that sexually oriented business “are naturally conducive to human trafficking-related behavior based on their business characteristics and the demand for sexually-oriented services”.

For these reasons, I urge your department to enforce the statutes and ordinances currently in place to reduce the demand for illegal commercial sexual exploitation and adequately punish buyers who continue to fuel the supply for this illegal enterprise. Additionally, I would request that you strongly consider enacting new policy that creates an atmosphere of risk that is both public and shameful for those who continue to engage in the purchasing or selling of women and children for sexual services.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

_____, Name
Street Address
City, State Zip Code