

PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 9, 2023

Keep the Window Constitutional Amendment on Track Despite the Politics Surrounding the House Speaker

The introduction and passage of the constitutional amendment for a window for child sex abuse survivors is scheduled for this Wednesday at the Pennsylvania House in Harrisburg. While Rep. Jim Gregory today asked current PA House Speaker, Rep. Mark Rozzi, to step aside today, the upheaval in the Speakership must not halt or delay the House's enactment of the legislation required for a constitutional amendment. It's time to take the safety of Pennsylvania's children out of politics and for everyone to come together for this much-needed access to justice for victims.

The window will identify hidden child predators that parents need to know about; it will shift the cost of the abuse from the victim to the ones who caused it; and it will educate Pennsylvanians about the truth of child sex abuse in the Commonwealth. We hope, for the sake of all Pennsylvanians, to be celebrating this week the beginning of the process that needs to be accomplished precisely, quickly and professionally. It would be cruel to leave the survivors hanging once again without justice or healing. Children need protection, not another failed process by government.

CHILD USA Founder and CEO, Marci Hamilton, said "The survivors of child sex abuse in Pennsylvania have been dragged through 17 years of back and forth to get a window to justice. They have been asked to accept a constitutional amendment instead of a statutory window. They have been subjected to failed statutory windows and the failure of the amendment due to bureaucratic error. It's time to pass the Pennsylvania constitutional window for all survivors from every corner of the state and every citizen of this state. On behalf of survivors, their families, and the parents who need to know the truth about the safety of their children, we implore House members to continue to treat this issue as the first and foremost priority of 2023. As planned, pass it out of the House this Wednesday! Time is short as our timeline explains."



Actions Needed for PA Window for Child Sex Abuse Claims





1/5/2023

Scan the QR code below or click to visit the <u>Pennsylvania Law page on CHILD USA's</u> <u>website</u> for more information about Pennsylvania's statutes of limitations for child sex abuse.



Kathryn Robb, Esq., Executive Director of CHILD USAdvocacy, said "Survivors and children are real people that deserve real action and swift justice. Unfortunately, the leaders in Harrisburg have failed them repeatedly. This process has been cruel and irresponsible. Now is the time for the leaders of Pennsylvania to right a terrible wrong, and

expose dangerous predators. It's time to pass a constitutional window, and survivors and children are running out of time."

Contact:

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About CHILD USA

CHILD USA is the leading national nonprofit think tank working to end child abuse and neglect in the United States. CHILD USA engages in high-level legal and social science research and analysis to derive the best public policies to end child abuse and neglect in America. CHILD USA produces evidence-based solutions and information needed by policymakers, organizations, media, and society as a whole to increase child protection and the common good. Visit www.childusa.org for more information.

About CHILD USAdvocacy

CHILD USAdvocacy is a 501(c)(4) advocacy organization dedicated to ending child abuse and neglect by advocating for better laws for child protection. Drawing on the combined expertise of the nation's leading child advocates, specifically our sister organization and national think tank, CHILD USA. CHILD USAdvocacy is committed to protecting children's civil liberties and keeping children safe from abuse and neglect. Visit www.childusadvocacy.org for more information.