Fighting Human Trafficking: Beatty Bill Becomes Law

The Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, H.R. 1865, was signed into law on April 11, 2018. The bill lifts barriers that prevent the federal government, states, and victims of sex trafficking from pursuing justice against one of America’s most prolific and inhumane underground markets.

Congresswoman Beatty is the lead Democratic sponsor of the bipartisan piece of legislation.

“I applaud all my colleagues in the House and the Senate for their swift and decisive action on this important bill. As a result, more victims can obtain justice, and we can finally begin to hold accountable both the trafficker and those who facilitate sex trafficking.”

In addition to spearheading the Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, Beatty successfully inserted an amendment into the End Banking for Human Traffickers Act, H.R. 2219. The language would require the President’s Interagency Taskforce to Monitor and Combat Trafficking to include in its report to Congress recommended changes to existing law to more effectively detect and deter the use of emerging technologies and virtual currencies to launder money gained from human trafficking.

April is Financial Literacy Month. Coinciding with the month-long celebration, Congresswoman Beatty introduced two relevant bipartisan pieces of legislation:

(1) a resolution officially designating April as “Financial Literacy Month,” H.Res. 806; and (2) the Financial Literacy College Education Act, H.R. 5277, a bill to provide colleges, universities and other institutions of learning with the tools and information to better empower their students to make informed financial decisions.

A champion of financial literacy and co-chair of the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus, Beatty has worked tirelessly in Congress to ensure that Americans of all ages and backgrounds can become more financially independent and self-sufficient. As a result, the Jump$tart Coalition recently named her recipient of the prestigious 2018 Federal Leadership Award for her legislative record.

You’re invited to Beatty’s May 22nd Telephone Town Hall!

On May 22, 2018, from 6:30PM to 8:00PM, Congresswoman Beatty will host her next telephone town hall to discuss the critical issues important to Central Ohio, the state and our nation. All residents of Ohio’s Third Congressional District are invited to attend. The deadline to register is May 20, 2018.

RSVP at: www.beatty.house.gov or call (614) 220-0003

Getting to Know the District: Highlighting Groveport, Ohio

Tucked in the southeast corner of Franklin County is the City of Groveport. One of 29 municipalities that makeup Ohio’s Third Congressional District, Groveport was founded in the 1800’s—when the neighboring towns of Wert’s Grove and Rareysport merged—and was officially designated as a city in 1847.

Today, more than 5,000 people call Groveport “Central Ohio’s Hometown” and share in the City’s vision of creating “a world-class place in which to do business with appealing assets, incentives and amenities.” To learn more about the City of Groveport, please visit: www.groveport.org.

As the Representative for Ohio’s Third Congressional District, Congresswoman Beatty has the privilege of representing the people of Groveport in the U.S. House of Representatives. She is dedicated to ensuring all residents have a voice in Congress and is committed to helping constituents resolve problems with their Social Security and Medicare, the VA and veterans’ services, and a whole host of other issues.

Congresswoman Beatty and her team review a draft of the Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act. (February 27, 2018)

The VFW Memorial Walkway at Motts Military Museum in Groveport, Ohio. (November 30, 2017 archived photo)
Congresswoman Beatty joined by Mayor Andrew Ginther, the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority, and a delegation of Central Ohio community leaders, helped break ground on the $37 million final phase to redevelop Pointdexter Village. Once complete, the new community, Legacy Pointe at Pointdexter, will provide 450 new affordable housing units.

Fueled by a $30 million Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CHOICE grant secured by Beatty to improve affordable housing options in Columbus’ Near East Side, the $120 million public-private funded project will include a number of one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments for rent by Central Ohioans and their families.

“I have fought relentlessly in Congress, Central Ohio, and across the country to expand affordable housing options, as well as to provide more ladders of hope for hardworking families no matter their zip code. I was proud to have helped secure the needed federal funds to help transform the Near East Side, and look forward to welcoming ‘home’ Legacy Pointe’s future residents. In the meantime, I will continue working with city, state and federal officials to ensure everyone everywhere has access to safe, secure and—most importantly—affordable housing.”

Public polling suggests there is consensus around the need to improve our nation’s gun laws. In fact, a Quinnipiac University poll found that 97 percent of Americans support universal background checks and also that two in three Americans want stronger gun laws overall. Moreover, 70 percent support stricter assault weapons laws based on a MSN poll.

“Every day another family suffers due to the epidemic. Americans are demanding action, because every day another family suffers due to the epidemic. That is why I am proud to introduce the SAFER Now Act and stand ready to work with Members on both sides of the aisle to help put a stop to this senseless violence.”

Consecrating NeighborWorks Grant
Homeport was recently awarded a $350,183 NeighborWorks grant to expand affordable housing opportunities and increase access to housing and counseling services for low- and moderate-income families. Congresswoman Beatty’s advocacy proved critical in securing the NeighborWorks grant that will advance Homeport’s mission to provide ‘greater security, opportunity, and dignity to thousands of people’ and to ‘equip Central Ohioans with the foundational skills needed for successful homeownership.”

“For more than 30 years, Homeport has been making the dream of homeownership a reality by developing new and renovated single- and multi-family homes that spur economic revitalization, as well as instilling families with the financial know-how to be successful homeowners—transforming entire communities in the process. I will continue working closely with Homeport and many others so that even more families have a place to call ‘home sweet home.’”

“$350,183
NEIGHBORWORKS
The NeighborWorks grant will support Homeport’s efforts to develop and preserve affordable housing, revitalize and sustain neighborhoods, and create jobs in Ohio.”

Introduces New Gun Bill: the SAFER Now Act
Congresswoman Beatty recently introduced the Safer America for Everyone Right (SAFER) Now Act, H.R. 5410. If enacted into law, the SAFER Now Act aims to stem the tide of gun violence by banning assault weapons and high capacity magazines, expanding background checks, closing the gun show loophole and authorizing federal grants for gun buy backs, among other reforms.

Kickoff of the Civility Tour
On February 20, 2018, Congresswoman Beatty and Congressman Steve Stivers (OH-15) made the first stop on their Civility Tour, fielding questions and speaking with students from Cristo Rey Columbus High School at the Columbus Metropolitan Library, stressing the importance of civility and respect in every day life.

“Although Congressman Stivers and I hold entirely different political beliefs, we respect one another and are committed to finding opportunities to work together. Unfortunately, our bipartisan relationship in Congress is the exception rather than the rule. So, we are launching the Congressional Civility and Respect Caucus to emphasize the value of civility, respect and open dialogue, and we urge our fellow Members of Congress to do the same.”