Businesses Against Trafficking (BAT): Legislative Guide

Program Summary

The Businesses Against Trafficking (BAT) program is a government-led, voluntary certification and partnership initiative that empowers the private sector to actively combat human trafficking. First introduced in U.S. states such as Texas, Iowa, Florida, Tennessee, and Virginia, this program can be administered through a nation's equivalent of a Secretary of State, Attorney General, or other appropriate law enforcement or administrative body. It invites corporations and private entities to adopt anti-trafficking policies, participate in awareness and training efforts, and contribute best practices to combat trafficking in persons.

How It Works

1. Voluntary Participation with Government Recognition

Businesses voluntarily enroll in the program and, upon meeting the program requirements, are awarded an official certificate of recognition by the relevant national authority. This not only affirms their commitment to corporate social responsibility but also demonstrates leadership in combating modern slavery.

2. Core Requirements for Businesses

Participating entities commit to:

- Adopting a zero-tolerance policy against human trafficking.
- Ensuring employee compliance with program standards.
- Providing or attending anti-trafficking training and educational campaigns.
- Promoting awareness within their industry.
- Sharing best practices and innovations with national authorities and stakeholders.

3. Multi-Agency Collaboration

The administering body works in concert with national ministries (e.g., Labor, Justice, Interior), advisory councils or anti-trafficking task forces, and civil society organizations to support, promote, and evolve the program over time.

4. Rulemaking and Oversight

Authorities may issue necessary administrative rules to ensure consistent implementation and oversight, in accordance with the country's rulemaking procedures.

Model Legislation

Businesses Against Trafficking Program ("BAT")

Section 1: Establishment of the Program

(a) The [Secretary of State / Attorney General / Ministry of Interior or equivalent] shall establish and implement a program designated as the [COUNTRY] Businesses Against Trafficking (CBAT) program to engage participating corporations and private entities in voluntary efforts to identify, prevent, and combat human trafficking.

Section 2: Recognition

(b) The [designated authority] shall present a certificate of recognition to a participating corporation or entity acknowledging its contributions to the efforts of national and local officials combatting human trafficking.

Section 3: Program Participation Requirements

(c) A participating business shall:

1. Adopt a zero-tolerance policy toward human trafficking.
2. Ensure employees comply with program-related guidelines.
3. Participate in training, awareness, and educational initiatives.
4. Promote the program within its industry sector.
5. Share successful strategies and practices with the administering agency.

Section 4: Interagency and Stakeholder Collaboration

(d) The [designated authority] shall collaborate with other government agencies and advisory bodies to promote and strengthen the program's reach and effectiveness.

Section 5: Rulemaking

(e) The [designated authority] may issue regulations to implement this legislation, in accordance with the country's applicable administrative law.

Would your government or parliament like tailored legislative advisement to adapt and introduce this model in your country?

This guide provides nations with a tested, scalable framework to empower the private sector as a frontline defense against exploitation. We can connect you to strategic support, survivor-informed guidance, and international legislative expertise to help you make this a reality.

Please contact us **HERE** to begin your legislative consultation. Together, we can build a world where exploitation and trafficking is eradicated.