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HEALTH
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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0916

May 18, 2023

Elizabeth Melendez Fisher Good Founder & CEO The Foundation United P.O. Box 5576 Sarasota, FL 34277

Dear Elizabeth:

I am writing to commend and recognize you for your groundbreaking efforts to prevent sex trafficking and ensure that children in Southwest Florida, as well as other communities in the United States and abroad are safe from predators over these many years.

It has been both an honor and my pleasure to work with you to fight against human trafficking, from the beginning of your efforts all the way through to your current and visionary leadership in launching the Foundation United. Also, I value and appreciate your longstanding support for legislation I have introduced to help educate students about how to identify the warning signs. You are a true leader in combating this form of modern-day slavery and protecting innocent and defenseless children.

Specifically, I applaud the work you have done with SPEAK UP to educate students to prevent sex trafficking before it happens. It's evidence-based, trauma-informed curriculum shows great promise in protecting children from harm, abuse, trafficking, and exploitation.

Sex trafficking has been reported in every state in the nation. I wish you the best as you work to expand SPEAK UP into new districts and states. In the meantime, I look forward to continuing to work with you to prevent sex trafficking in Florida and across the nation.

Sincerely,

Vern Buchanan

Member of Congress

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