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The Honorable Rob Portman
United States Senate
448 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear Senators Portman and Blumenthal:

I am writing on behalf of 21st Century Fox to convey our strong support for S. 1693, the bipartisan Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act of 2017.

As a global multi-media company that provides consumers the world over with groundbreaking news, sports and entertainment programming, we have a vested interest in a strong and vibrant internet ecosystem that promotes free speech and the equal exchange of ideas. At the same time, we believe that everyone that does business in this medium has a civic responsibility to help stem illicit and illegal activity. While it is impossible to formulate laws to govern every possible situation, your legislation is a rational and measured effort to deal with a tragic and pernicious problem that is global in scope.

It is unfortunate and alarming that critics of your bill would resort to hyperbole and scare tactics, arguing that passage of the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act will signal the demise of free speech and innovation on the internet. Thankfully, those critics, influential as they may be, do not speak for the entire internet community.

As a company that could benefit from legal protections afforded in Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, we are confident the narrow and tailored legislation that you have proposed will appropriately target bad actors participating in this illegal activity and immediately serve to protect the most vulnerable among us from predatory sex traffickers.

We appreciate your leadership on this matter, and we look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure this important bill becomes law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Smith".