

SENATOR RON JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN

SENATOR TOM CARPER, RANKING MEMBER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Nov. 19, 2015

Contact:

<u>Paige Alwood</u> (Johnson), (202) 228-1732 Jennie Westbrook (Carper), (202) 224-2627

Johnson, Carper Comment on PSI Hearing on Human Trafficking

http://1.usa.gov/1Qwe6oz

WASHINGTON – Chairman Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) and Ranking Member Tom Carper (D-Del.) of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee comment on the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigation's hearing concerning human trafficking:

"I fully support Chairman Portman and Ranking Member McCaskill's right to obtain subpoenaed material from Backpage.com as a part of the subcommittee's investigation into human trafficking, " said Sen. Johnson. "Members of the committee must have access to all information necessary to carry out their oversight and legislative obligations under the Constitution. In the interest of transparency and accountability, I will work with my colleagues to enable the committee to continue to fulfill its important oversight function."

"Human trafficking has been described as modern-day slavery and is an issue that deserves the attention of this Committee," said Sen. Carper. "It's easy to think of human trafficking as something that happens somewhere else – in countries far away from ours that are suffering through war and poverty. Sadly, human trafficking is a real and growing problem all over the world, including here at home. I commend Senators Portman and McCaskill on their bipartisan effort through the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations to gather all the facts relevant to this issue, including their examination of the effectiveness of Backpage.com's actions to combat human trafficking."

You can watch the hearing live starting at 10 a.m. ET here.