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# United States Senate

September 24, 2019

The Honorable Christopher Wray  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigations  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Wray:

I write to express my concerns about the reassignment of the only Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent dedicated to investigating and preventing human trafficking in Montana. While I fully support and advocate for additional resources for Indian Country, I do not believe this move is appropriate. Instead, I urge the FBI to reassign a full-time agent to human trafficking cases and an additional full-time agent to focus on crime in Indian Country in Montana.

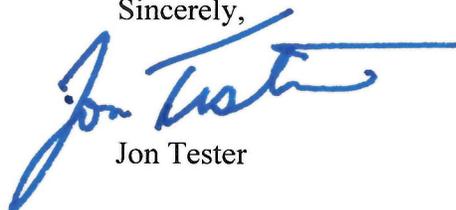
Since 2016, only one federal agent has been assigned full-time to human trafficking cases in Montana. The agent's work helps bring offenders to justice, raise awareness about human trafficking across the state, and train law enforcement officers, health care providers, educators, and other community members on how to recognize and report signs of human trafficking.

Instead of solely focusing on these efforts, the agent is now assigned to 50 percent human trafficking cases and 50 percent Indian Country cases. While I appreciate the FBI's increased focus on Indian Country, splitting an agent's time between two major law enforcement priorities hinders their ability to fully deliver on either. This is unfair to the agent and the folks they protect.

As part of the Fiscal Year 2019 government funding bill, the FBI received over \$161 million in additional funding for detection, investigation, and prosecution of crimes. In light of this increase, the FBI should be dedicating more resources to both human trafficking and violence in Indian Country – not cutting one to focus on the other.

I urge the FBI to reassign at least one full-time agent to combatting human trafficking in Montana, while simultaneously continuing to increase resources to reduce crime in Indian Country. By working together we can combat both of these critical issues and make Montana safer.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester