

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: 01 24 1118 This is in regards to human rights. The organization known as the Church of Scientology has in its employee at least 200 R1 Visa workers many of which are now elderly. This classification of Visa is for ministry work. The types of work done is defined by the US State Department and it does not include doing 110 hours of Labor. Furthermore the passports and documents of these workers are removed from their possession and not returned until they must seek renewal. The individuals are compensated occasionally or promised a weekly stipend of \$50 per week to cover their sundry expenses such as toilet paper toothpaste and underwear. The workers are restricted in their movement and communication and often transferred location to location without any decision or self direction. These are guests in our country and under the guys of an R1 Visa Scientology is taking advantage and abusing those Visa holders in a form of slavery and deprivation. This includes elderly members who will eventually become useless and unceremoniously cast out of their ranks with just a few dollars in their pocket to become homeless seniors on our streets. Similar conditions are suffered by American citizens who sign up for the sea org section of the organization. These individuals sign a billion year contract and live under similar conditions of the R1 Visa c org members. Their daily food rations may be restricted or compromised as a punishment. They are often abused verbally emotionally and psychologically. Some are even aged less than in their majority and encouraged to marry older members so that they are not subject to child labor laws. Their movements location of residency and service are determined by the organization and leaving is psychologically difficult . The upper management of the organization lives in a life of luxury while Rich donors to the organization receive free labor for their homes and are provided other beneficial services. This form of slavery should not be tolerated in Los Angeles and should be immediately resolved for those people suffering under its oppression. Individuals holding R1 Visa status should be welcomed into the country and provided a US green card and sufficient transitional assistance provided so that they may become independent contributions to the society at Large. This is a significant human rights effort that if taken on by this city and county and State will be a source of pride. Failure to

take action to end this scourge will be equal to acceptance of and the promotion of slavery within our community. Shame on us shame on you if no action is taken.