



# The Empowerment Project

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH

January 19, 2026

## A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

Last week, I was honored to welcome members of the Trump administration and Focus on the Family here in Mississippi for a service project packing 1,350 suitcases for children in foster care. Over 150 volunteers from State agencies participated by filling rolling suitcases with stuffed animals, age-appropriate Bibles, and handwritten notes of encouragement. The suitcases and items packed inside were donated by Focus on the Family through their Wait No More Suitcase Bundle Program.

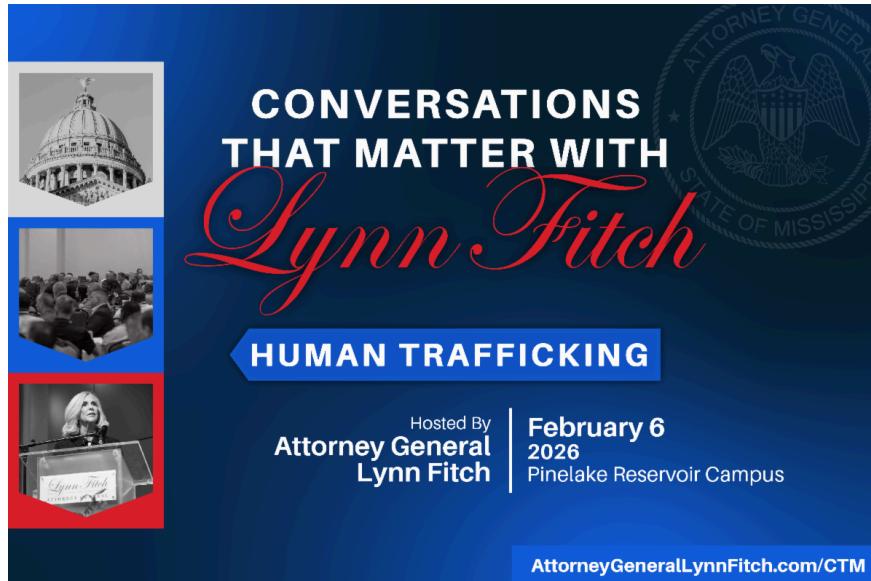
Children in foster care face unique challenges, often entering the system with very few personal belongings and a great deal of uncertainty. By providing them with something they can truly call their own, we are offering more than a tangible item; we are offering a sense of stability and dignity. Every child deserves to feel valued and secure, and I am grateful to our volunteers and agency partners who work tirelessly to ensure these children know they are seen and cherished.

May God Bless You,



We are grateful to Rev. Raigan Miskelly, Senior Pastor at Galloway United Methodist Church in Jackson, and her congregation for their support of this special project. View photos and video from the event [HERE](#).

## SHARE ON SOCIAL



The fight against human trafficking asks something of each of us. On February 6, 2026, you will have an opportunity to stand with victims of human trafficking and be part of the solution. My office is hosting a free, one-day summit to educate and empower one another in the fight to end human trafficking. We will offer informative panels on how to identify and report trafficking, give trafficking survivors an opportunity to share their stories, connect attendees with organizations that need volunteer help, and engage in a service project to offer victims hope. You can visit my website [HERE](#) to learn more and sign up for this free event.

Share this graphic on your social media and tell your friends that you have signed up for this free event and hope they will, too.

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## WHAT WE'RE READING



### [USA Today - SCOTUS, let states do what's right: Defend women in sports](#)

It's been a long time coming for the young women who've stood up and made a case for how unfair it is for them to be forced to compete against biological males. They deserve a win.

Since 2020, 27 states have passed measures that ban transgender athletes from playing on female teams and accessing private places like locker rooms and bathrooms. Despite strong support from the Trump administration for women's sports, those laws are at stake, depending on how the court rules later in 2026.

The nation's highest court last summer agreed to take up *West Virginia v. B.P.J.* and *Little v. Hecox*. Both West Virginia's and Idaho's laws regarding women's and girls' rights were challenged by transgender athletes, and they raise different legal questions.

### [SuperTalk Mississippi - Mississippi becomes latest to offer paid parental leave to state employees](#)

A bill allowing state employees in Mississippi to stay home with newborns or newly adopted children without suffering financial detriment is now law, going into effect Thursday.

House Bill 1063, titled the “Mississippi State Employees Paid Parental Leave Act,” glided through both chambers of the legislature and was signed into law by Republican Gov. Tate Reeves in March 2025. With the start date being set for Jan. 1, 2026, it offers paid parental leave to employees who have worked with a state agency for at least one calendar year.

Eligible employees, designated as the primary or secondary caregivers of a child, are entitled to six weeks off while being paid the entirety of their salaried earnings.



## ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

### **SuperTalk Mississippi - \$1 million to be distributed to Mississippi organizations assisting human trafficking victims**

Mississippi **Attorney General Lynn Fitch** announced that the funding was made available through the Victims of Human Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Fund, which was created by the state legislature in 2020. This year’s awards bring the total distributed for human trafficking victim services to \$9.5 million since the fund’s inception.

“Working together, we can put an end to human trafficking in our State,” **Fitch** said. “Mississippi is blessed with many organizations, including these eight, committed to walking alongside victims on their journey to find healing. I am grateful to the Fund Committee’s dedication to ensuring these organizations have the resources they need to support these individuals as they work to rebuild their lives.”

### **WLBT - Romanian national sentenced in card skimming scheme across multiple Miss. counties**

A Romanian national was sentenced in a card skimming scheme spanning multiple Mississippi counties, **Attorney General Lynn Fitch** announced.

The suspect, identified as Antonio Rafaila, was charged on one count of illegal possession, production, or trafficking in device-making equipment for the placement of skimmer devices on credit card readers in stores across Jones County, Madison County, and Laurel.

The Mississippi Attorney General’s Office investigated this case, receiving assistance from the Madison Police Department, Texas Financial Crimes Intelligence Center, and the United States Secret Service.

### **The Daily Journal - AG Fitch announces Phase 2 of Operation Robocall Roundup**

**Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch** recently announced Phase 2 of Operation Robocall Roundup, a multistate effort by the Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force to crack down on robocalls across the country.

As part of an ongoing investigation, the bipartisan Task Force has directed Inteliquent, Bandwidth, Lumen, and Peerless to stop transmitting suspected illegal robocalls across their networks.

“Robocalls are not only annoying and disruptive to our everyday lives, but they are often used to perpetrate scams,” **said Attorney General Lynn Fitch**. “I am proud to

join my colleagues as we protect not only Mississippians, but all Americans from these unsolicited calls and hold the companies that facilitate them accountable."

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