

Is this you or someone you know?

- Are you being forced to work or perform sex acts against your will?
- Are you working a job for little to no wages?
- Are you threatened, tricked, or controlled by someone you know or someone you just met?
- Is someone holding your identification and documents?
- Are you afraid to leave?

If yes, there is help. Victims of human trafficking are protected under international, federal, and New Jersey Law.

To find services and learn about your options:



Call **1-888-373-7888** or text **BE FREE (233733)** for the National Human Trafficking Hotline
To report a tip or lead, please call the New Jersey Human Trafficking Hotline at **855-END-NJHT (855-363-6548)**

Human Trafficking Described

Trafficking in persons is modern day slavery

Victims of human trafficking, men, women and children, can be exploited for the purpose of commercial sexual activity, including prostitution and pornography, as well as many types of forced labor, including domestic servitude and migrant agricultural work. Traffickers lure and control their victims through the use of force, fraud, or coercion, and employ techniques such as physical and psychological abuse, false employment offers, document holding, and isolation.

Human Trafficking affects both citizens and non-citizens

In fact, many victims are citizens who are trafficked within the borders of their own country, including the United States. Additionally, despite what the name implies, forced movement or travel is not always an element of a human trafficking crime. Anyone can become a victim of this crime, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, nationality or immigration status.

NJ Office of the Attorney General
Division of Criminal Justice
NJ Human Trafficking Task Force



**HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
IS MODERN DAY
SLAVERY**



KNOW IT.

SEE IT.

REPORT IT.



njhumantrafficking.gov toll free hotline 855-363-6548
855-END-NJ-HT



New Jersey Human Trafficking Task Force

*Committed to combatting the crime of Human Trafficking through **Education, Collaboration, and Prosecution.***



What is the NJ Human Trafficking Task Force

To address the problem of trafficking of humans in New Jersey, the Attorney General and the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) have convened the **New Jersey Human Trafficking Task Force (NJHTTF)**, comprised of state and federal law enforcement agencies, state regulatory departments, advocacy groups, and social service providers. The Attorney General and DCJ are committed to training and assisting law enforcement in methods of identifying victims and signs of trafficking to disrupt and interdict this activity.

The Attorney General and DCJ recognize the need to coordinate law enforcement efforts and to take a multi-disciplinary approach in addressing the needs of victims of all forms of human trafficking. Providing law enforcement with information and education on trafficking and trafficked victims, together with a collaborative, coordinated response to victims' needs, should increase the ability of federal and state prosecutors to successfully prosecute individuals who engage in trafficking of persons.

NJ Office of the Attorney General
 Division of Criminal Justice
 NJ Human Trafficking Task Force
njhumantrafficking.gov

Our Goals

Train and assist law enforcement in methods of identifying victims and signs of trafficking in order to disrupt and interdict this activity

Coordinate statewide efforts in the identification and provision of services to victims of human trafficking

Increase the successful interdiction and prosecution of trafficking of human persons

Program Contacts:

■ **AAG Annmarie Taggart**
 Acting Deputy Director
 Chairperson of Human Trafficking Taskforce
 609.984.6500

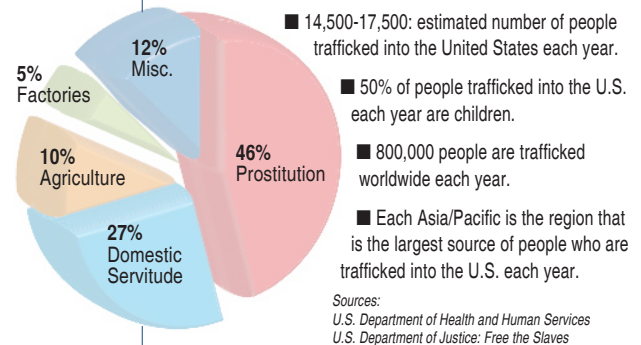
■ **Kathy Friess**
 Program Coordinator
 856.414.8630
 609.984.6500

New Jersey is Ripe for Human Trafficking

New Jersey, centrally located between the northern portion of the East Coast and the tri-state metropolitan region of **Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.**, is easily accessible by car, bus, truck, van, train, boat, and plane.

All things considered, New Jersey has the potential to be one of the country's major entry, transit, and destination states for trafficking.

Once here, these victims are forced into prostitution and other forms of sex work, labor, and domestic service.



Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Hotline

If you believe that you are a victim or have identified a victim of human trafficking, please call this Toll-Free hotline:

855-363-6548
855-END-NJ-HT





HOW TO TALK TO YOUTH ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A Guide for Youth Caretakers and Individuals
Working with Youth



ABOUT THIS GUIDE

As a youth caretaker or individual working with youth, you are in a unique position to reach those considered vulnerable to exploitation and human trafficking: youth. You play an important role because you interact with youth regularly, you learn about their lives, and you often gain their trust. You may also help connect youth with their peers and/or communities, which may help protect them against exploitation.

You may also be able to recognize when something is wrong in a youth's life. This guide includes information about:

- » What human trafficking is
- » How to recognize it among youth
- » Tips for talking to youth about general exploitation
- » Information about building life skills that may help prevent youth from being trafficked
- » Reporting options if you suspect a youth is affected by human trafficking or being exploited

This guide can be used by any adult who is a caretaker of a youth or individuals who work with youth through formal or informal programming in classrooms, camps, community or faith-based programs, sports leagues, mentorship programs, and more. The information in this guide can be incorporated into existing activities, lessons, or conversations that you use to engage the youth in your lives. This content can be adapted to best meet the unique needs of your program and/or the youth you interact with. This guide was created with a focus on middle and high school-aged youth (11- to 17-years old).

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Causing someone under the age of 18 to engage in a commercial sex act, regardless of using force, fraud, or coercion is human trafficking under U.S. law.¹ Human traffickers use various forms of force, fraud, and coercion to control and exploit victims. These forms include imposing of debt, fraudulent employment opportunities, false promises of love or a better life, psychological coercion, and violence or threats of violence.²

The crime of human trafficking hinges on the exploitation of another person. People often falsely believe "human trafficking" implies victims must be moved from one place to another to qualify as a victim. Human trafficking does not require transportation to be considered a crime.³ It is a crime that can be committed against an individual who has never left their hometown.

Human trafficking victims can be any age, race, gender identity, sex, ethnicity, nationality, immigration status, or socioeconomic class. In many cases, victims do not come forward to seek help because they are vulnerable, potential language barriers may exist, they have a fear of law enforcement, or they do not identify as a victim.

¹ See 18 USC Chapter 77 for precise definitions.

² See 18 USC Chapter 77 for language on elements of the crime.

³ Learn more about the difference between human trafficking and human smuggling: dhs.gov/bluecampaign.





HOW TRAFFICKERS OPERATE

Traffickers often prey on victims with little or no social safety net. They look for victims who are vulnerable because of their lack of social or family support systems, unstable housing, previous traumatic experiences or abuse, immigration status, limited English proficiency, and inability to decipher exploitative situations. Traffickers recognize these factors, along with other risk factors (mentioned on page 5), may make someone more likely to take risks to access opportunities and stability. Youth may also be targeted by traffickers simply because they are young and may be less equipped to make informed and sound decisions when presented with a situation that may lead to trafficking.

Who are Traffickers?

There is no single face of traffickers, they can be any gender, age, or race. To victims, they can be:

- » “Pimps” or a romantic partner
- » Employers or other professionals
- » Community leaders or people of prominence
- » Family members
- » Friends or peers
- » Strangers
- » Connected by mutual friends

In some cases, there is no trafficker controlling or benefiting from youth victims, but only the buyer who is committing a crime. Based on federal law, minors (under the age of 18) cannot consent to a commercial sex act, so once this occurs, they are considered a victim of this crime.

Where Are Traffickers Reaching Victims?

Traffickers often go to locations where they can reach vulnerable individuals. Some of these locations include:

SOCIAL MEDIA, ONLINE, AND DATING APPS

Targeting youth online has become an increasingly common tactic among traffickers. They will look for vulnerable young people who are receptive to their advances.

POPULAR MEETING PLACES

Locations where youth may frequent such as malls, parks, concerts, community centers, public transit centers, house gatherings, etc.

SCHOOLS

Peer-to-peer recruitment may take place in schools. This is when traffickers coerce or force their victims into recruiting their peers with promises of more payment, better status, or less abuse.

GROUP HOMES, DETENTION CENTERS, SHELTERS, AND FOSTER CARE HOMES

Traffickers know that individuals at these locations are experiencing hardship, and they can play to those challenges by offering financial or emotional support to gain trust.





HUMAN TRAFFICKING MYTHS

There are many myths surrounding what human trafficking is and what it looks like. These myths may cloud the judgement of youth caretakers and individuals working with youth to recognize exploitation and human trafficking. Below are examples of common myths surrounding human trafficking:

MYTH	REALITY
When someone is trafficked, they are kidnapped and held against their will.	Being trafficked may be a gradual process. It may take weeks or months of grooming and manipulation by the trafficker before a victim is exploited. Victims may appear to have free will but are often controlled by their trafficker through fear and other forms of mental manipulation. They may not even identify themselves as a victim.
Traffickers are older men who prey on young girls.	The person who lures a youth into a trafficking situation is often one of their peers, a member of their family, or someone they think they trust. Traffickers can be any race, gender, or age.
Only girls are sex trafficked.	Youth of all genders are vulnerable to experiencing sex trafficking. This includes boys, transgender youth, nonbinary, and non-conforming youth.
Youth experiencing human trafficking do not go to school.	Youth who attend school and are involved in community activities are still at-risk for being trafficked. Even during a trafficking experience, a victim may still attend school regularly and participate in their usual programs.
Traffickers target victims they do not know.	In many cases, traffickers target vulnerable people who they already know. Traffickers may target friends, family, or any mutual connections to victims in order to establish contact.
Only undocumented individuals are forced labor victims.	Anyone can be a victim of forced labor. Youth of every race, gender, and immigration status are vulnerable to being forced to work for little or no pay.
Forced labor doesn't occur in legal or legitimate business settings.	Forced labor takes place in all kinds of businesses and settings, both legal and illegal. A variety of industries, for example illicit massage businesses, domestic work, agriculture, factory work, door-to-door sales crews, bars and restaurants, construction, hospitality, and commercial cleaning services, have uncovered forced labor.





INDICATORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Understanding the indicators of human trafficking can help alert adults working with or caring for youth to a potential human trafficking situation. While no single indicator is necessarily proof of human trafficking, recognizing the signs is the first step in identifying potential victims.

Physical or Behavioral:

Does the youth...



- » Have unexplained absences from school or display a sudden drop in school performance?
- » Chronically run away from home?
- » Show sudden or dramatic changes in behavior? For example, if a typically mild-mannered youth begins acting out or a typically outgoing youth becomes reclusive and disconnected from peers.



- » Act fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid?
- » Suddenly have more (and/or more expensive) material possessions, like purses, clothing, and/or cell phones?



- » Exhibit behaviors that would get them suspended (fighting, class disruptions)?
- » Defer to another person to speak for him or her, especially during interactions with authority figures?
- » Appear to be deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care, or other necessities?
- » Talk about or use language related to performing sex acts for money?
- » Have tattoos or scars that may indicate branding from a trafficker?

Social

Does the youth...



- » Have a "boyfriend," "girlfriend," or romantic partner who is noticeably older?
- » Engage in sexual behavior that puts them at risk of harm or indicate they may be experiencing abuse from their partner?



- » Stop attending the youth activities they normally attend?
- » Reference traveling to other cities or towns frequently?
- » Seem restricted from contacting family, friends, or his or her legal guardian?



- » Seem to work excessively long hours or during school hours?
- » Talk about getting paid very little or not at all for the work they do?
- » Appear to not have the freedom to quit their job?





YOUTH VULNERABILITIES

Risk Factors

Understanding youth risk factors can help put youth caretakers and individuals working with youth in a better position to prevent the youth they interact with from being exploited or even trafficked. Youth often experience individual and environmental risk factors that make them more vulnerable to human trafficking situations. Keeping the following risk factors in mind will help to provide you with a better understanding of human trafficking victimization. As a trusted adult, youth may talk to you about their experiences with these risk factors, but it is important not to highlight those experiences as something that could make them vulnerable to exploitation or human trafficking in your conversations.

- » Poverty
- » Homelessness
- » Interaction with foster care or juvenile justice systems
- » Lack of support networks, like strong relationships with friends, family, or other trusted adults
- » Gang involvement, especially among youth who identify as female
- » History of running away
- » Low self-esteem
- » Being bullied
- » Experience discrimination due to their race, gender identity, sexuality, disability, or other personal characteristic
- » Family history of sexual abuse or violence
- » Community or familial history of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation
- » Substance abuse or addictions
- » Cognitive and physical disabilities
- » Experiencing or witnessing a traumatic event
- » Cultural historical trauma (particularly among minority communities)
- » Being the sole or primary provider for their family

Protective Factors

To counteract risk factors, identifying and building protective factors can help to prevent youth from exploitative and trafficking situations. As a youth caretaker or individual working with youth, you may already be helping to build protective factors by engaging youth with their peers and community and by serving as a trusted adult in their lives. Some additional ways to increase protective factors among youth include:

- » Talking about being taken advantage of and what that can look like (see page 10).
- » Building self-esteem by helping youth recognize their capability, potential, and interests.
- » Fostering a sense of community and encourage youth to build strong relationships with friends, family, peers, neighbors, and/or other community members.
- » Fostering an environment of acceptance and support for youth who identify as LGBTQIA+.
- » Encouraging youth to seek help from a trusted adult or community resource if they are experiencing exploitation or any other form of hardship.
- » Emphasizing to youth that there are people like you who will advocate for them if they find themselves in an exploitive situation and need help. They may feel shame or guilt about what they've been forced to do, often due to the manipulation of their trafficker, and may fear how their family or law enforcement may view them.
- » Building pride for their community and awareness of the cultural contributions made by their ancestors.
- » Talking about characteristics of healthy relationships and red flags for abuse (see page 11).
- » Talking about safe internet use (see page 12).





EXAMPLES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The following examples are fictional but based on actual tactics that traffickers use to exploit victims and indicators that someone is a potential victim of human trafficking.

Fitting In



Stacy has spent the last three years in foster care. She was removed from her home due to repeated physical and sexual abuse she experienced by her mother's boyfriends. Stacy is about to be adopted by her foster parents. She is excited to have a permanent home, but also feels self-conscious about the school she has been going to. Her foster parents do not have a lot of money, and she worries that she sticks out compared to the other students.

All her clothes are from discount stores, and she has been teased for her off-brand outfits. Stacy starts to make some new friends with a group of kids in the grade above her. They invite her to parties, and she really feels like she is starting to fit in and become more confident in herself. Her new friends also give her brand-name clothes and new makeup. Stacy's case worker notices that Stacy has started wearing new expensive clothing and has not been showing up to their check-ins. She asks Stacy where she is getting money for the clothing from, but Stacy claims that she found an after school job assisting at a hair salon.

At one of the parties, Stacy is told to go to the back bedroom with some of her other female friends. If they do whatever the men entering the room ask them to do, they will all get \$150 at the end of the night. Stacy is hesitant at first but her other friends seem to be okay with it, and she really could use the money. Her friends have become like her family, and now they are helping her make money, which she desperately wants and needs. Stacy is enticed by the possibility that she can make money for herself even if that means having sexual contact with men. After making nearly one thousand dollars, Stacy decides she does not want to do this anymore.

When she refuses at one party, her friends say that some of the men have videos of them and will send them to their families if they do not keep doing what they say. Stacy is really scared that if her new adoptive parents find out what she has been doing they will put her back in foster care. She decides to tell her case worker, a trusted adult in her life, about what's been going on. Her case worker tells Stacy she did the right thing by coming to her and works with the local authorities to report the men threatening to release videos of her.

Controlling "Boyfriend"



Henry is a teacher who oversees a classroom of 15 middle schoolers. He really gets to know the kids during the school year and enjoys watching them become friends with each other. He often overhears the kids talking about crushes, boyfriends, and girlfriends. Most of the time these conversations are innocent, but he overhears a group of the girls chatting about hanging out over the weekend.

One of the girls, Carmen, says she needs to ask her boyfriend for permission first to hang out with them. One of her friends asks, "Wouldn't you need to ask your grandma, not your boyfriend?" Carmen responds, "I know my grandma will say yes, but my boyfriend gets mad when I don't spend enough time with him. I really don't want to make him mad." Henry knows immediately that this does not seem like an appropriate relationship dynamic for a middle schooler. He has also seen Carmen being dropped off at school by an older man who he assumed was a relative, but now he is second guessing. Henry decides to talk to his supervisor about his concerns that Carmen may be in an exploitative situation.





Too Much Freedom



Josh is an openly gay high school freshman. His teachers recognize him as being extremely smart but has a hard time applying himself. He goes to an after-school recreational program with his friends at a nearby community center. He has gotten in trouble a few times for disruptive behavior and once for drinking on the community center's property. The staff that oversees the afterschool program knows Josh's mom has struggled with drugs and often has a hard time making ends meet. The staff watch out for all the kids at the community center, but keep a closer eye on kids like Josh who are experiencing hardships at home.

One day the staff overhears Josh bragging about staying out late, partying, using drugs and alcohol, and showing off wads of cash to other kids. He also mentions hanging out with a new group of men and how much fun he has being "arm candy" to them. One of the staff members calls Josh's mom to check in and expresses concern. Josh's mom says, "I let him do what he wants because he is a good kid." She is very defensive of his behavior, although it is out of character for someone of his age. The staff member decides to speak with their supervisor to share concerns.

Working During School



Vance is a youth counselor at a local community center where he runs the after-school program. He is familiar with most of the kids in his community because so many of them come by the center to get help with school work or play pick-up sports games. Lately, he has noticed a group of kids of various ages that he has never seen before. They hang out near the corner store across the street selling candy bars, and sometimes he sees them going door-to-door in the neighborhood trying to make sales. He's used to seeing some of the local kids selling candy for school fundraisers, but there's something different about this group. They are very quiet and submissive, and they don't appear to go to school because he sees them out selling at all hours of the day. When one of the kids approaches to sell him some candy, Vance asks him what neighborhood he lives in, but the child doesn't seem to know the answer. He notices that the kid is probably not getting enough to eat, and his clothes are in poor condition.

One particular day, Vance sees two men in a van drive up to the kids at the corner store. They get out to talk to the kids, and Vance overhears the men asking them how much money they have made so far. When the two men don't seem to be happy with the answer, they demand all the kids get in the van, and they drive off to another location. Vance decides to write down the make, model, and license plate of the van and submit it to the local authorities with what he saw.





Unlikely Friendship



Iris is an administrator at an alternative middle school in an underserved community. As someone who works with the kids and observes their behavior on a daily basis, Iris is especially familiar with school dynamics. In recent months, she has noticed an unlikely friendship forming between two seventh graders — Gianna and Madeline. Gianna is in foster care and has a history of difficulty with making friends. Madeline, a popular student with a dominant personality, is well known among school administrators for a number of disciplinary issues. Gradually, Iris begins to see Gianna and Madeline hanging out during lunch and in the hallways before and after school. Most of their interactions seem harmless, but Iris realizes that they become quiet whenever they see her making her rounds. Gianna soon begins to look more like Madeline, dressing in similar suggestive clothes and wearing more makeup. Some days, Iris doesn't see the two girls at all. Eventually, she deduces that not only are they missing class multiple times a week, but that they are also missing class on the same days. Whenever Gianna is present, she has a habit of falling asleep in class.

One day, Iris observes as Gianna and Madeline go their separate ways following what appears to be a conversation by the school restrooms. When Iris approaches Gianna, she sees that Gianna is crying and has fresh bruises on her arms. When Iris asks Gianna if she's all right, Gianna responds, "I'm fine." Iris asks, "Did Madeline hurt you?" Abruptly, Gianna replies, "No. She's mad at me because I don't want to go home with her and her dad today." Iris wants to know more, but Gianna storms off down the hall. Concerned that Madeline might be bringing Gianna into an abusive situation, Iris decides to immediately raise the issue with her supervisor.

Questionable Breaks



Hannah is a high school guidance counselor who specializes in helping underclassmen on a career-focused track. She has been working with Lucas, a sophomore who is new to her school. Lucas has a troubled past. Following a one-year stint in a juvenile detention facility, Lucas's mother died, and he has been living with an older sister. Despite these challenges, Lucas has been making progress. He has maintained high marks for grades and attendance, and through a school-supported vocational program, Hannah has helped Lucas obtain an internship with an automotive repair facility. During a recent check-in, Lucas tells Hannah about an online connection he has made through social media. While keeping most of the details vague, Lucas tells her that this connection has promised to help him start saving money for auto mechanic school. Hannah is skeptical of Lucas's story but gives him the benefit of the doubt.

Over the course of the semester, Lucas's grades and attendance begin to decline. His teachers raise the issue with Hannah. At his check-ins, Lucas appears tired and quieter than usual. His personal hygiene has also become noticeably poor, but he assures Hannah that everything is okay. Then, one day, Hannah gets a call from Lucas's supervisor at the automotive repair facility. The supervisor claims that Lucas has been taking breaks at strange times during internship hours and that he has been picked up from the shop by a variety of different vehicles. Fearing that Lucas's social media connection has baited him into an exploitative situation, Hannah shares her concern with the school's principal to determine next steps for getting Lucas help.



Mother Figure



As a youth programs coordinator at a local community center, Carson has built close relationships with the kids who attend the center after school. One of the students, a rising freshman named Summer, has been a regular at the community center for nearly six months. Summer has a known history of living in various family shelters throughout her adolescence. Now, in foster care, she has a seemingly more stable environment. Carson notices that a group of three similarly aged girls have flocked to Summer in recent weeks, which is no surprise given Summer's reputation as a "mother figure" at her foster home. Carson is, however, alarmed by the drastic change in behavior among the girls. Their attendance at the community center becomes sporadic, and when they are there, they are dressed in inappropriately short shorts and heavy makeup. Carson overhears jokes, mostly from Summer, about older boyfriends and "sugar daddies."

As he's locking up one Friday evening, Carson watches an unfamiliar van pull up in front of the community center. The driver, a male who looks to be in his early- to mid-forties, is not Summer's guardian, and Carson doesn't recognize him to be anyone else's. Summer tells the three girls to get into the back, and she follows them into the van. As the van pulls away, Carson decides to write down the license plate number so that he can report it to the local authorities.

Deceitful Date



Jace volunteers several hours of his week as a mentor with a local youth-focused nonprofit organization. Aaron, one of Jace's mentees, is a high school junior. Having recently come out as nonbinary to their parents, Aaron was kicked out of their house and is living with a friend. Jace is worried about Aaron, but Aaron assures Jace that they can manage on their own. Jace and Aaron grab coffee together every Saturday. One Saturday, Aaron confides in Jace that they have been talking to someone named D.J., a senior at another local high school, on social media. Hoping that D.J. will be their boyfriend, Aaron has been messaging him about a possible meetup. When Jace asks about who reached out first, Aaron tells him that D.J. liked one of their photos before messaging them. Assuming this to be a fairly normal interaction, Jace thinks nothing of it but tells Aaron to be careful.

The next time Jace sees Aaron, his mentee appears distraught. Aaron recounts the details of their odd first date with D.J. What was supposed to be a picnic in the park turned into a visit to D.J.'s uncle's farm. D.J. explained that his uncle was in poor health and asked Aaron if they would mind "helping out for a little bit." Wanting to make a good impression, Aaron agreed. Aaron found it strange that D.J. had a change of clothes for them in his car, but also appreciated the fact that they wouldn't get their own clothes dirty. At the farm, Aaron noticed two other people working on the property, both of similar age to them, one male and one female. When they tried to engage the other people in conversation, the workers avoided making eye contact and kept communication short. Aaron also recognized that the workers were malnourished, dirty, and in questionable condition overall. After several hours of doing various chores around the farm, D.J. apologized to Aaron, asked them for a rain check on their date, and took them home. When Aaron expressed their reservations about how the day went, D.J. laughed it off and told them someone in their situation should appreciate the work. He told them, "Who knows? Next time, you might even get paid."

Jace knows that Aaron is being taken advantage of and tells his mentee that he is there for them. When he tells Aaron they should end their relationship with D.J., Aaron says they are scared to because they have shared private pictures with D.J. They shrug off the situation, saying, "Maybe D.J.'s right anyway. Maybe I should be appreciative." When Jace leaves the coffee shop, he decides to text his program coordinator for advice on what to do.





TALKING TO YOUTH

The term “human trafficking” often invokes imagery of glorified Hollywood scenes of young people being kidnapped by a stranger. Because this type of trafficking situation is not typical, young people are often unaware of what the more common warning signs of trafficking or an exploitative situation can look like and how to guard against them.

To help youth identify warning signs and better understand human trafficking, and more broadly, exploitation that can lead to trafficking, below are recommendations for how to talk about the crime in terms that may be more relatable to the youth you interact with. These recommendations can be incorporated into existing activities, lessons, or used in casual conversations.

DO	DON'T
<p>Talk about exploitation. Focus conversations on what it means to be taken advantage of, what that may look like, feel like, and even examples of exploitation – such as job offers that seem too good to be true or online romantic relationships that move too fast.</p>	<p>Use crime-specific language. The term “human trafficking” may not resonate with youth and they may even “tune out” from conversations using too much crime-specific language.</p>
<p>Talk about protective factors. Conversations should focus on how youth can protect themselves and look out for their friends and peers. Encourage youth to recognize what they are good at, their future goals, and the value they bring to their friends and family.</p>	<p>Talk about risk factors. Many times, youth may not have any control over the risk factors they are affected by. Focusing discussions on risk factors may make youth feel singled out, vulnerable, and unable to protect themselves.</p>
<p>Use empowering language. Use language that focuses on highlighting the strengths of the youth you work with and emphasizes they are in control of their own decisions, especially when presented with opportunities that may seem too good to be true.</p>	<p>Use victimizing language. Using language that invokes fear and highlights weaknesses may discourage youth from taking any protective action.</p>
<p>Use language that resonates with youth. By interacting with youth regularly, you likely are familiar with the types of language they use in their everyday conversations. Use casual language that you’re comfortable with and that youth will connect with to keep them engaged.</p>	<p>Use “textbook” language. Using formal or “textbook” language that youth do not relate to may make it harder for your message to catch their attention.</p>
<p>Express that you care and are concerned about their safety. If youth shares information with you about an exploitative situation they may be experiencing, start by listening to them and letting them know you care about what they are going through.</p>	<p>Focus on questioning their situation. Let professionals who are trained in trauma response ask specific questions about their situation. Asking too many questions initially may also inadvertently place some blame on them and make them less receptive to help.</p>





LIFESTYLE FACTORS

Youth caretakers and individuals working with youth may also want to address certain lifestyle factors that may help to prevent youth from being exploited. Below is some information about important lifestyle factors affecting youth that can be incorporated into programming or casual conversations.



Healthy Relationships

Youth who do not have examples of healthy relationships in their lives may be more vulnerable to human trafficking. Their understanding of what a relationship should look like may be distorted by the relationships they see among their peers, from their parents and guardians, or in the media.

Below are some misconceptions youth may hold as to what a relationship looks like:

- » Being obsessed with one another is part of being in love.
- » Having a controlling partner means that they care about you.
- » It is normal to ask your partner for permission to go somewhere or buy something.
- » Violence is an acceptable part of a relationship.
- » Sex is an obligation in a relationship.

While interacting with youth, it is important to challenge these ideas and emphasize what a healthy relationship can look like. Conversations can center around respect and how that should play out in the relationships they have with their family, peers, or romantic partners.

These are some characteristics of healthy relationships that can be emphasized with youth:

OPEN COMMUNICATION

You should never be scared to talk to your partner about something.

RESPECT FOR PRIVACY

You do not need to be with your partner 24/7, and they should not have access to your personal belongings like your phone or money.

VIOLENCE IS NEVER OKAY

Your partner should never put their hands on you with the intent to physically harm you, and you should not feel unsafe when being around them.

CONSENT

It is only okay to engage in any type of sexual behavior if both of you have agreed, are comfortable, and desire to do so. It is also okay to change your mind about wanting to have sex, and a safe partner should respect that.





Online Safety

Predators and human traffickers can gain access to youth online because they are not always aware of how dangerous online environments can be or how to keep themselves safe. Predators oftentimes actively stalk online meeting places, such as chat rooms and social media sites, to identify and lure their victims.

Many vulnerable youth may use the internet as a place of self-discovery, and to find a supportive network of people experiencing similar hardships as they are. While they may be building online friendships and getting much needed support from peers, it is still important that they practice safety online. Below are several safety tips you can discuss with the youth you interact with to protect themselves while they are online and using social media:

- » Keep your personal information private (where you live, work, go to school, or details about your personal life).
- » Set your profile to private so only your friends in real life can get access.
- » Never accept a friend request from someone you do not know in real life.
- » If you share a personal photo and someone uses it to threaten or blackmail you, you have options. Talk to a trusted adult about how to protect yourself or get help.
- » If you plan to meet someone in person that you met online, it should be in a public setting, like a restaurant or coffee shop, and let a trusted friend know who, where, and when you are meeting.
- » Do your research on a job offer that seems too good to be true by reading reviews on company rating websites or reaching out to current and/or past employees to validate information about the job.
- » If someone is not who they seem to be, or you think you are being lured into a potentially exploitative situation, tell a trusted adult. Reporting the person could help stop them from potentially exploiting others.
- » Trust your instincts! If something feels wrong about a conversation you are having with someone online, stop the conversation and block the profile.

Job Promises

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Youth should be wary of offers for jobs in fields that are typically hard to break into – such as modeling and acting – or offers in remote locations, faraway states, and foreign cities. Traffickers may try to lure victims into isolation away from their friends and family.

Indicators of a false job promise could include:

- » The payment and the job description do not seem to match (for example, a high hourly salary for a typically low-paying job).
- » The employer does not request any information about your previous work experience.
- » The employer asks for a photo of you as part of the application process.
- » The employer asks a lot of personal questions about you that are not relevant to the potential job.
- » The employer requests a substantial fee to cover the costs of uniforms or other expenses.
- » The employer tells you not to tell anyone about the job or asks you to lie about your age.





HOW TO REPORT

Call 911 or local law enforcement if you or someone else is in immediate danger.

Follow your organization's reporting protocols. If you suspect a youth you work with is experiencing a human trafficking situation, follow your organization's protocols for reporting a child in danger.

» Do not at any time attempt to confront a suspected trafficker directly or alert the youth to your suspicions. Your safety and that of the youth is important. Instead, please contact local child services or local law enforcement directly or call the tip lines indicated on this page.

Call 1-866-347-2423 to report suspicious criminal activity to the **Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Tip Line** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. Highly trained specialists take reports from both the public and law enforcement agencies on more than 400 laws enforced by HSI, including those related to human trafficking. HSI agents responding to reports are specifically trained on a victim-centered approach to stabilize victims and connect them with support services, including providing immigration relief⁴ for qualifying victims. You can also **submit an anonymous tip online via the HSI Tip Form** at: ice.gov/webform/hsi-tip-form.

Call 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733). The **National Human Trafficking Hotline** takes calls from victims and survivors of human trafficking and those who may know them. It can help connect victims with service providers in the area and assist in reporting their situation to trusted law enforcement contacts. The Trafficking Hotline is a national, toll-free hotline available to answer calls from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in English, Spanish, and more than 200 other languages. The Trafficking Hotline is not a law enforcement or immigration authority and is operated by a nongovernmental organization.

Call 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or go to CyberTipline.org to report suspected child sex trafficking, sextortion, online enticement, and sexual abuse material to the **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)**. NCMEC is a non-profit organization, available 24/7 to work with families, victims, private industry, law enforcement, and the public to support the identification, location, and recovery of child sex trafficking and child sexual exploitation victims.

ABOUT BLUE CAMPAIGN

Blue Campaign is a national public awareness campaign, designed to educate the public, law enforcement and other community partners to recognize the indicators of human trafficking, and how to appropriately respond to possible cases. Blue Campaign works closely with U.S. Department of Homeland Security components to create general awareness training and materials for law enforcement and others to increase detection of human trafficking and to identify victims.

For additional resources such as pamphlets, information sheets, and wallet cards, please visit Blue Campaign's resource webpage: dhs.gov/blue-campaign/share-resources.

Contact Blue Campaign

BlueCampaign@hq.dhs.gov


dhs.gov/bluecampaign



@dhsbluecampaign

⁴ Learn more about immigration assistance at: dhs.gov/blue-campaign/immigration-assistance



 KeyCite Yellow Flag - Negative Treatment
Proposed Legislation

New Jersey Statutes Annotated
Title 2c. The New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice (Refs & Annos)
Subtitle 2. Definition of Specific Offenses
Part 1. Offenses Involving Danger to the Person
Chapter 13. Kidnapping and Related Offenses: Coercion (Refs & Annos)

N.J.S.A. 2C:13-8

2C:13-8. Human trafficking

Effective: July 1, 2013

[Currentness](#)

Human trafficking. a. A person commits the crime of human trafficking if he:

(1) knowingly holds, recruits, lures, entices, harbors, transports, provides or obtains, by any means, another, to engage in sexual activity as defined in paragraph (2) of subsection a. of [N.J.S.2C:34-1](#) or to provide labor or services:

(a) by causing or threatening to cause serious bodily harm or physical restraint against the person or any other person;

(b) by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that the person or any other person would suffer serious bodily harm or physical restraint;

(c) by committing a violation of [N.J.S.2C:13-5](#) against the person;

(d) by destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or possessing any passport, immigration-related document as defined in section 1 of [P.L.1997, c. 1 \(C.2C:21-31\)](#), or other document issued by a governmental agency to any person which could be used as a means of verifying the person's identity or age or any other personal identifying information;

(e) by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of the law or legal process;

(f) by means of fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation against the person; or

(g) by facilitating access to a controlled dangerous substance or controlled substance analog as set forth in chapter 35 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes;¹ or

(2) receives anything of value from participation as an organizer, supervisor, financier or manager in a scheme or course of conduct which violates paragraph (1) of this subsection; or

(3) knowingly holds, recruits, lures, entices, harbors, transports, provides or obtains, by any means, a child under 18 years of age, to engage in sexual activity as defined in paragraph (2) of subsection a. of [N.J.S.2C:34-1](#), whether or not the actor mistakenly believed that the child was 18 years of age or older, even if that mistaken belief was reasonable.

b. An offense under this section constitutes a crime of the first degree.

c. It is an affirmative defense to prosecution for a violation of this section that, during the time of the alleged commission of the offense of human trafficking created by this section, the defendant was a victim of human trafficking.

d. Notwithstanding the provisions of [N.J.S.2C:43-6](#), the term of imprisonment imposed for a crime of the first degree under paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection a. of this section shall be either a term of 20 years during which the actor shall not be eligible for parole, or a specific term between 20 years and life imprisonment, of which the actor shall serve 20 years before being eligible for parole. Notwithstanding the provisions of [N.J.S.2C:43-3](#), the sentence for a conviction for a crime of the first degree under this section shall include a fine in an amount of not less than \$25,000, which shall be collected as provided for the collection of fines and restitutions in section 3 of P.L.1979, c. 396 ([C.2C:46-4](#)) and forwarded to the Department of the Treasury to be deposited in the “Human Trafficking Survivor’s Assistance Fund” established by section 2 of [P.L.2013, c. 51](#) ([C.52:17B-238](#)).

e. In addition to any other disposition authorized by law, any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be ordered to make restitution to any victim. The court shall award to the victim restitution which is the greater of:

(1) the gross income or value to the defendant of the victim's labor or services; or

(2) the value of the victim's labor or services as determined by the “New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act,” P.L.1963, c. 150 ([C.34:11-56.25 et seq.](#)), the “New Jersey State Wage and Hour Law,” P.L.1966, c. 113 ([C.34:11-56a et seq.](#)), the Seasonal Farm Labor Act, P.L.1945, c. 71 ([C.34:9A-1 et seq.](#)), the laws concerning the regulation of child labor in chapter 2 of Title 34 of the Revised Statutes, or any other applicable State law, and the “Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938,” [29 U.S.C. s.201 et seq.](#), or any other applicable federal law.

Credits

[L.2005, c. 77, § 1, eff. April 26, 2005](#). Amended by [L.2013, c. 51, § 3, eff. July 1, 2013](#).

Editors' Notes

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

Assembly, No. 2730--L.2005, c. 77

February 3, 2005

The Senate Judiciary Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Committee substitute for Assembly Bill No. 2730 (ACS).

This substitute would establish the new crime of human trafficking. This crime concerns using a person for the purposes of engaging in unlawful sexual activity or providing unlawful labor or services. These activities represent a modern form of slavery, in which increasing numbers of persons, primarily women and children, are trafficked across international borders and into this State. Although there are current laws which may be used to attempt to prosecute some of the underlying trafficking crimes such as prostitution, kidnapping, criminal restraint and criminal coercion, there is no specific law which addresses human trafficking per se.

This substitute creates a statute tailored specifically to prohibit human trafficking and the range of schemes and plans used to lure the victims of human trafficking and maintain them in their imprisoned environments. This substitute incorporates relevant portions of the “Model State Anti-Trafficking” statute into New Jersey’s Criminal Code. The substitute amends the law concerning prostitution to provide an affirmative defense for those defendants who are victims of human trafficking. In addition the substitute amends the law to provide victims of human trafficking the same benefits accorded other victims of serious crimes and includes human trafficking within the racketeering statute.

Section 1 of the substitute (as amended) creates the new crime of human trafficking. A person would be guilty of the crime of human trafficking if he knowingly recruits, lures, entices, harbors, transports, provides or obtains, by any means, another, to engage in unlawful sexual activity as defined in [N.J.S.A. 2C:34-1](#) (prostitution) or to provide unlawful labor or services: (a) by threats of serious bodily harm or physical restraint against the person or any other person; (b) by means of any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that the person or any other person would suffer serious bodily harm or physical restraint; (c) by committing a violation of [N.J.S.2C:13-5](#) (criminal coercion) against the person; or (d) by destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or possessing any passport, immigration-related document as defined in section 1 of P.L.1997, c.1 (C.2C:21-31), or certain other documents issued by a governmental agency; or (e) by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of the law or legal process. Also, a person would be guilty of human trafficking if he receives anything of value from participation as an organizer, supervisor, financier or manager in a human trafficking scheme.

Human trafficking is a crime of the first degree. Under the provisions of the substitute, a mandatory term of imprisonment would be imposed for the first degree crime of human trafficking where the defendant participates in the human trafficking scheme as an organizer, supervisor, financier or manager, pursuant to paragraph (2) of subsection a. The mandatory term of imprisonment for that offense would be for a term of imprisonment of 20 years during which time the defendant would not be eligible for parole, or a specific term between 20 years and life imprisonment, of which the defendant would serve 20 years before being eligible for parole.

The substitute provides an affirmative defense to prosecution if the defendant, during the alleged commission of the offense, was a victim of human trafficking.

Section 1 would also provide for restitution for victims of human trafficking. The court would award to victims of human trafficking the greater of: (1) the gross income or value to the defendant of the victim’s labor or services; or (2) the value of the victim’s labor or services as determined by the “New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act,” [N.J.S.A.34:11-56.25](#) or other applicable State or federal laws.

Section 2 of the substitute (as amended) amends the prostitution statute, [N.J.S.A.2C:34-1](#) to provide an affirmative defense if during the time of the alleged commission of prostitution, the defendant was a victim of human trafficking. In addition, the substitute would amend prostitution to provide that a person must have “knowingly” leased or otherwise permitted a place to be used for prostitution or promotion of prostitution in order to be found guilty of the offense of promoting prostitution.

Section 3 of the substitute (as amended) amends New Jersey's racketeering statute, [N.J.S.2C:41-1](#), to include human trafficking in the list of offenses which are considered "racketeering activity."

Section 4 of the substitute (as amended) amends the "Criminal Injuries Compensation Act," N.J.S.52:4B-1 et seq., to specifically provide victims of human trafficking with the protections and services provided to all victims of violent crimes. Victims of human trafficking would gain access to all the services provided by the VCCB and to the Office of Victim-Witness Assistance which develops and coordinates the Statewide victim-witness rights information program.

Committee amendments: The committee amendments omit section 1 of the substitute which amended the kidnapping statute, [N.J.S.2C:13-1](#). The amendments incorporate sexual activity provisions in the new crime of human trafficking.

Section 2 of the substitute amended [N.J.S.2C:13-2](#), criminal restraint, to remove those provisions in the law which concern involuntary servitude which were then placed in a separate section in the criminal code. The amendments no longer place involuntary servitude in a separate section.

Section 3 of the substitute made it a crime of the first degree for a person to knowingly hold another in a condition of involuntary servitude by knowingly providing or obtaining the labor or services of another by certain methods. The committee amendments incorporate labor and services provisions in the new crime of human trafficking.

Section 7 of the substitute would have amended the forfeiture statute, [N.J.S. 2C:64-1](#), to provide that any property or proceeds of any unlawful activity related to human trafficking or involuntary servitude would be subject to forfeiture. The committee amendments remove this section as unnecessary as the forfeiture statute applies to all property used in furtherance of criminal activity and to proceeds of criminal activity.

As amended, this substitute is identical to the Senate Committee Substitute for Senate, Nos. 1848/1877.

FLOOR STATEMENT

Assembly, No. 2730--L.2005, c. 77

February 14, 2005

These floor amendments amend the section of law promulgating standards for law enforcement agencies to ensure that the rights of crime victims are enforced.

These floor amendments add new subsections e. and f. to [N.J.S.A. 52:4B-44](#) concerning victims of human trafficking. These amendments would require the Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy or the county prosecutor's office involved in the case to ensure that the victim of human trafficking obtain assistance in receiving any available benefits or services. Because some of these victims of human trafficking are likely to be persons who do not have United States citizenship status, the amendments would specifically direct law enforcement to provide assistance with regard to any necessary certifications or endorsements needed for the victim to be recognized as having federal T non-immigrant status for the purpose of receiving any federal benefits or services available pursuant to the "Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2003," [22 U.S.C. section 7101 et. seq.](#)

The floor amendments would also direct the Attorney General, through the Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy and in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Senior Services, the Superintendent of State Police and representatives of providers of services to victims of human trafficking, to coordinate the establishment of standard protocols for the provision of information and services to these victims.

Footnotes

1 N.J.S.A. § 2C:35-1 et seq.

N. J. S. A. 2C:13-8, NJ ST 2C:13-8

Current with laws through L.2023, c. 194 and J.R. No. 15.

End of Document

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SENATE, No. 1987

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Diegnan and Ruiz

SYNOPSIS

Permits victims and witnesses of human trafficking to testify in criminal proceedings via closed circuit television; permits judge to make motion to seek closed circuit testimony.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning certain victims and witnesses and amending
2 P.L.1985, c.126.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1985, c.126 (C.2A:84A-32.4) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. (1) In prosecutions for aggravated sexual assault, sexual
10 assault, aggravated criminal sexual contact, criminal sexual contact,
11 human trafficking **[involving sexual activity]**, a crime involving
12 domestic violence as defined in section 3 of P.L.1991, c.261
13 (C.2C:25-19), endangering the welfare of a child pursuant to
14 N.J.S.2C:24-4, abuse or neglect of a child pursuant to R.S.9:6-3, or
15 in any action alleging an abused or neglected child under P.L.1974,
16 c.119 (C.9:6-8.21 et seq.), the court may, on motion and after
17 conducting a hearing in camera, order the taking of the testimony of
18 a victim or witness on closed circuit television at the trial, out of the
19 view of the jury, defendant, or spectators upon making findings as
20 provided in subsection b. of this section.

21 (2) In granting such an order, the court shall assure that:

22 (a) the victim or witness will testify under oath;

23 (b) the victim or witness will submit to cross-examination by the
24 defendant's attorney; and

25 (c) the defendant, jury, and judge will be permitted to observe
26 the demeanor of the victim or witness when making testimonial
27 statements using closed circuit television.

28 b. An order under this section may be made only if the court
29 determines by clear and convincing evidence that there is a
30 substantial likelihood that the victim or witness would suffer severe
31 emotional or mental distress if required to testify in the presence of
32 spectators, the defendant, the jury, or all of them. The order shall
33 be specific as to whether the victim or witness will testify outside
34 the presence of spectators, the defendant, the jury, or all of them
35 and shall be based on specific findings relating to the impact of the
36 presence of each.

37 c. A motion seeking closed circuit testimony under subsection
38 a. of this section may be filed by:

39 (1) The victim or witness or, in the case of a victim or witness
40 who is under the age of 18, the victim's or witness's attorney, parent
41 or legal guardian;

42 (2) The prosecutor; **[or]**

43 (3) The defendant or the defendant's counsel; or

44 (4) The trial judge on the judge's own motion.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 d. The defendant's counsel shall be present in the same room as
2 the victim or witness at the taking of testimony on closed circuit
3 television. The defendant and the defendant's attorney shall be able
4 to confer privately with each other during the testimony by a
5 separate audio system.

6 e. If testimony is taken on closed circuit television pursuant to
7 the provisions of this section, the video portion of the testimony
8 shall not be recorded and shall not constitute part of the record on
9 appeal. All audio transmissions, except private conversations
10 between the defendant and the defendant's attorney, shall be
11 recorded and thereafter shall be subject to the following provisions:

12 (1) If the victim or witness is 18 years of age or older at the time
13 of the court proceedings, any recording of the audio portion of the
14 closed circuit testimony shall constitute part of the record on
15 appeal, unless the court orders otherwise for good cause shown
16 upon motion of the parties.

17 (2) If the victim or witness is under the age of 18 at the time of
18 the court proceedings, any recording of the audio portion of the
19 closed circuit testimony shall not constitute part of the record on
20 appeal and shall be deemed confidential and not available to the
21 public, unless the court orders otherwise for good cause shown
22 upon motion of the parties. In making the determination regarding
23 the availability of the audio portion of the testimony, the court shall
24 consider potential trauma or stigma to the victim or witness. A
25 transcript of the audio portion of the closed circuit testimony shall
26 constitute part of the record on appeal, subject to any personal
27 identification safeguards contained in section 1 of P.L.1989, c.336
28 (C.2A:82-46).

29 f. For purposes of this section, "closed circuit television"
30 means any closed-circuit, videoconferencing or other audio-visual
31 electronic technology capable of producing a simultaneous, one-
32 way broadcast from a victim or witness to a defendant in a separate
33 physical location. The technology shall allow for the live
34 observation of the victim or witness by the defendant, jury, and
35 judge during the course of testimony or cross-examination, while
36 excluding a victim or witness from directly hearing or viewing the
37 defendant during the proceedings.

38 (cf: P.L.2017, c.205, s.1)

39

40 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

41

42

43

STATEMENT

44

45 This bill would permit all victims and witnesses of human
46 trafficking to testify in criminal proceedings via closed circuit
47 television. Under current law, victims and witnesses of human
48 trafficking involving sexual activity, among others, are permitted to

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1 testify via closed circuit television. Also under current law, the
2 victim or witness, the prosecutor, or the defendant or their counsel
3 may make a motion seeking closed circuit testimony. The bill
4 would also permit a trial judge to make a motion.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1136

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Pintor Marin and Assemblyman Miller

SYNOPSIS

Requires DCA, in consultation with Commission on Human Trafficking, to establish Statewide initiative for Red Sand Project.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/14/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning human trafficking and amending P.L.2013,
2 c.121 and supplementing Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.121 (C.52:17B-237) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. There is hereby created, in the Division of Criminal
10 Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, a commission
11 to be known as the Commission on Human Trafficking, consisting
12 of 15 members as follows: the Attorney General, or his designee;
13 the Commissioner of Children and Families, or his designee; the
14 Commissioner of Human Services, or his designee; a county
15 prosecutor, appointed by the Governor based upon the
16 recommendation of the County Prosecutors Association of the State
17 of New Jersey; one member of the New Jersey Human Trafficking
18 Task Force established within the Department of Law and Public
19 Safety, designated by the Attorney General; two public members
20 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the
21 Senate President, one representing law enforcement and one
22 representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member
23 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the
24 Senate Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health care
25 facility or mental health services; two public members appointed by
26 the Governor based upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the
27 General Assembly, one representing law enforcement and one
28 representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member
29 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the
30 Assembly Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health
31 care facility or mental health services; and four public members
32 appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a representative
33 of a child advocacy organization concerning missing, abducted, or
34 exploited children, and one of whom shall be a human trafficking
35 survivor. All public members shall have experience with, possess a
36 background in, or demonstrate a specialized knowledge of, the
37 legal, policy, educational, social, or psychological aspects of human
38 trafficking.

39 b. (1) Of the public members first appointed:

40 (a) the following shall serve for a term of three years: one
41 member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate
42 President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the
43 Speaker of the General Assembly; and two members appointed by
44 the Governor; and

45 (b) the following shall serve for a term of two years: one
46 member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the
2 Speaker of the General Assembly; each member appointed upon the
3 recommendation of the Senate and Assembly Minority Leaders; and
4 two members appointed by the Governor.

5 (c) Upon the conclusion of the initial terms, each public member
6 shall be appointed for a term of three years.

7 (2) Each member appointed shall hold office for the term of
8 appointment and until a successor shall have been appointed and
9 qualified.

10 (3) Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be
11 filled by appointment in the same manner as the original
12 appointment was made.

13 c. (1) The commission shall organize upon the appointment of
14 a majority of its authorized membership. The members shall elect
15 one of the members to serve as chair and vice-chair, and the chair
16 may appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the
17 commission.

18 (2) The commission shall meet at those times and places within
19 the State of New Jersey as the commission shall determine. A
20 majority of the commission's authorized membership shall
21 constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business, for the
22 performance of any duty, or for the exercise of any power of the
23 commission.

24 d. The members of the commission shall serve without
25 compensation, but shall be eligible for reimbursement for necessary
26 and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their
27 official duties within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise
28 made available to the commission for its purposes.

29 e. The Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law
30 and Public Safety shall, at the direction of the Attorney General,
31 provide legal, stenographic, technical, clerical, and other staff and
32 resource assistance to the commission, and additionally the
33 commission may incur expenses as may be necessary in order to
34 perform its duties within the limits of funds appropriated or
35 otherwise made available to it for its purposes.

36 f. It shall be the duty of the commission to:

37 (1) Evaluate the existing law concerning human trafficking and
38 the enforcement thereof, and to make recommendations for
39 legislation, if appropriate;

40 (2) Review existing victim assistance programs and analyze the
41 costs, organization, and availability of these services for victims of
42 human trafficking and to make recommendations for legislation, if
43 appropriate;

44 (3) Promote a coordinated response by public and private
45 resources for victims of human trafficking; and

46 (4) Develop mechanisms to promote public awareness of human
47 trafficking, including promotion of the national, 24-hour toll-free
48 hotline telephone service on human trafficking described under

1 section 18 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-11) and other initiatives,
2 including, but not limited to, the Red Sand Project set forth in
3 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
4 and the promotion of training courses and other educational
5 materials for use by persons required under section 19 of P.L.2013,
6 c.51 (C.2C:13-12) to undergo training on the handling of and
7 response procedures for suspected human trafficking activities.

8 g. The commission shall report annually to the Governor and to
9 the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
10 19.1), its activities, as well as its findings and recommendations for
11 any needed new services or resources for victims of human
12 trafficking, and any proposed changes to the current law concerning
13 human trafficking.

14 (cf: P.L.2021, c.3, s.1)

15
16 2. (New section) a. The Department of Community Affairs
17 shall, in consultation with the Commission on Human Trafficking
18 established by section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), establish
19 a Statewide initiative for the Red Sand Project, which shall coincide
20 with Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

21 b. Pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2013, c.51(C.52:17B-238), the
22 Attorney General, in consultation with the Commission on Human
23 Trafficking established by section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-
24 237), may provide for the expenditures of monies from the “Human
25 Trafficking Survivor’s Assistance Fund” to assist with the Red Sand
26 Project Initiative.

27
28 3. This act shall take effect immediately.
29
30

31 STATEMENT
32

33 The bill would establish a Statewide Initiative for the Red Sand
34 Project.

35 Under the bill, the Department of Community Affairs would, in
36 consultation with the Commission on Human Trafficking, establish a
37 Statewide initiative for the Red Sand Project. This initiative would
38 coincide with the month of January, which is designated as Human
39 Trafficking Prevention Month.

40 The Attorney General, in consultation with the Commission on
41 Human Trafficking, may provide for the expenditures of monies from
42 the “Human Trafficking Survivor’s Assistance Fund” to assist with the
43 Red Sand Project Initiative.

44 Under current law, the Commission on Human Trafficking is
45 required to, among other things, develop mechanisms to promote
46 public awareness of human trafficking, including promotion of the
47 national, 24-hour toll-free hotline telephone service on human

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5

1 trafficking. This bill would require the commission to develop
2 mechanisms to promote the Red Sand Project.

3 The Red Sand Project was created by artist Molly Gochman and
4 involves pouring red sand in the cracks of sidewalks to promote
5 awareness of human trafficking and to recognize the human trafficking
6 victims who metaphorically “fall through the cracks” of our social,
7 economic, and political systems.

SENATE, No. 1988

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Ruiz

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates statute of limitations for prosecution of human trafficking crimes.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning the statute of limitations and amending
2 N.J.S.2C:1-6.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. N.J.S.2C:1-6 is amended to read as follows:

8 2C:1-6. Time Limitations. a. (1) A prosecution for any offense
9 set forth in N.J.S.2C:11-3, N.J.S.2C:11-4, N.J.S.2C:14-2, section 1
10 of P.L.2005, c.77 (C.2C:13-8), or sections 1 through 5 of P.L.2002,
11 c.26 (C.2C:38-1 through C.2C:38-5) may be commenced at any
12 time.

13 (2) A prosecution for any offense set forth in N.J.S.2C:17-2,
14 section 9 of P.L.1970, c.39 (C.13:1E-9), section 20 of P.L.1989,
15 c.34 (C.13:1E-48.20), section 19 of P.L.1954, c.212 (C.26:2C-19),
16 section 10 of P.L.1984, c.173 (C.34:5A-41), or section 10 of
17 P.L.1977, c.74 (C.58:10A-10) may be commenced at any time.

18 b. Except as otherwise provided in this section, prosecutions
19 for other offenses are subject to the following periods of
20 limitations:

21 (1) A prosecution for a crime must be commenced within five
22 years after it is committed;

23 (2) A prosecution for a disorderly persons offense or petty
24 disorderly persons offense must be commenced within one year
25 after it is committed;

26 (3) A prosecution for any offense set forth in N.J.S.2C:27-2,
27 N.J.S.2C:27-4, N.J.S.2C:27-6, N.J.S.2C:27-7, N.J.S.2C:29-4,
28 N.J.S.2C:30-2, N.J.S.2C:30-3, or any attempt or conspiracy to
29 commit such an offense, must be commenced within seven years
30 after the commission of the offense;

31 (4) A prosecution for an offense set forth in N.J.S.2C:14-3 or
32 N.J.S.2C:24-4, when the victim at the time of the offense is below
33 the age of 18 years, must be commenced within five years of the
34 victim's attaining the age of 18 or within two years of the discovery
35 of the offense by the victim, whichever is later;

36 (5) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2007, c.131).

37 c. An offense is committed either when every element occurs
38 or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of
39 conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or
40 the defendant's complicity therein is terminated. Time starts to run
41 on the day after the offense is committed, except that when the
42 prosecution is supported by physical evidence that identifies the
43 actor by means of DNA testing or fingerprint analysis, time does
44 not start to run until the State is in possession of both the physical
45 evidence and the DNA or fingerprint evidence necessary to

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 establish the identification of the actor by means of comparison to
2 the physical evidence.
- 3 d. A prosecution is commenced for a crime when an indictment
4 is found and for a nonindictable offense when a warrant or other
5 process is issued, provided that such warrant or process is executed
6 without unreasonable delay. Nothing contained in this section,
7 however, shall be deemed to prohibit the downgrading of an offense
8 at any time if the prosecution of the greater offense was commenced
9 within the statute of limitations applicable to the greater offense.
- 10 e. The period of limitation does not run during any time when a
11 prosecution against the accused for the same conduct is pending in
12 this State.
- 13 f. The limitations in this section shall not apply to any person
14 fleeing from justice.
- 15 g. Except as otherwise provided in this code, no civil action
16 shall be brought pursuant to this code more than five years after
17 such action accrues.
18 (cf: P.L.2007, c.131, s.1).

19
20 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be applicable
21 to all offenses not yet barred from prosecution under the statute of
22 limitations as of the effective date.

23
24
25 STATEMENT

26
27 This bill would eliminate the statute of limitations for
28 prosecution for the crime of human trafficking.

29 Currently, under the provisions of N.J.S.2C:1-6 there is no
30 statute of limitations for prosecutions for the following crimes:
31 murder; manslaughter; sexual assault; and criminal offenses arising
32 from violations of certain environmental statutes concerning
33 widespread injury or damage.

34 Prosecution for other crimes, such as human trafficking, must be
35 commenced within five years, except for certain crimes enumerated
36 in the statute such as: (1) bribery and official misconduct offenses
37 which must be commenced within seven years; (2) criminal sexual
38 contact or endangering the welfare of a minor which must be
39 commenced within five years after the victim attains the age of 18
40 or two years after discovery, whichever is later. Prosecutions for
41 disorderly persons offenses must be commenced within one year
42 after they are committed.

43 By eliminating the statute of limitations for human trafficking
44 crimes, the prosecution for these crimes may be commenced at any
45 time rather than within five years after it is committed.



RECOMMENDED STATE LEGISLATION

Child Sex Trafficking Is Abuse Act

The Child Sex Trafficking is Abuse Act modernizes state legal definitions of child abuse and neglect to include sex trafficking, ensuring these survivors have access to essential child welfare services. This legislation aligns state law with federal guidelines and best practices by closes existing gaps in the law and ensuring survivors of sex trafficking have the same legal protections and services as other abused or neglected children.

The Child Sex Trafficking Is Abuse Act Benefits Child Sex Trafficking Survivors by:

- Providing statutory access to child welfare services to children victimized by sex trafficking. The Child Sex Trafficking Act provides child sex trafficking survivors with access to child welfare programs and services, connecting them with the protections already available to other victims of abuse and neglect.
- Closing legal gaps to provide child welfare services to children victimized by sex trafficking. Child survivors of sex trafficking encounter limitations in accessing child welfare programs and services due to the absence of statutory recognition as victims of child abuse. The Child Sex Trafficking is Abuse Act closes these legal gaps by explicitly adding sex trafficking to the definition of child abuse and neglect. This legislation ensures that survivors of sex trafficking receive the same protections and services as other victims of abuse and neglect under state law.
- Aligning state law with Federal child welfare best practices: The Child Sex Trafficking Act adheres to Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (JVTA) recommendations by incorporating language from state trafficking statutes into the definition of child abuse and neglect, ensuring these children have access to important child welfare resources and services.

Enacted the Child Sex Trafficking Is Abuse Act or Similar Legislation:

AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE	FL	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME
MA	MD	MI	MN	MS	MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND	OH	OK	OR	PA
RI	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY							Enacted Law	No Law

Recommended Legislative Action:

Add sex trafficking as defined in existing state law to the definition of child abuse and neglect as defined in the state code.

P.L. 2023, CHAPTER 208, *approved January 8, 2024*
Senate, No. 1211

1 AN ACT concerning civil actions by persons injured as a result of
2 the commission of human trafficking offenses, and amending
3 P.L.2013, c.51.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7

8 1. Section 4 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-8.1) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 4. a. Any person injured, including injury due to the loss of
11 moneys or property, real or personal, **by an actor and all those**
12 **acting in concert with that actor who committed** as a result of the
13 commission of a human trafficking offense in violation of section 1
14 of P.L.2005, c.77 (C.2C:13-8)₂, or section 5 of P.L.2013, c.51
15 (C.2C:13-9)₂, may bring a civil action in any court of competent
16 jurisdiction against: (1) the actor and offender; (2) all those
17 acting in concert with that actor offender; (3) all those knowingly
18 deriving a pecuniary benefit from the offense, whether or not these
19 parties are acting in concert with the offender; and (4) all those
20 knowingly maintaining any victim of the offense, whether or not
21 these parties are acting in concert with the offender. A civil action
22 brought under this section shall not preclude the application of any
23 other civil, administrative, or criminal remedy under any other
24 provision of law.

25 b. (1) The standard of proof in a civil action brought pursuant
26 to this section is a preponderance of the evidence, and the fact that a
27 prosecution against the offending actor is not instituted or,
28 whenever instituted, terminates without a conviction, shall not
29 preclude a civil action.

30 (2) A final judgment rendered in favor of the State in any
31 criminal proceeding shall estop the defendant from denying the
32 same conduct in any civil action brought pursuant to this section.

33 c. In any civil action brought pursuant to this section, the court
34 shall, in addition to any other appropriate legal or equitable relief,
35 including damages for pain and suffering, recovery of reasonable
36 costs for necessary medical, dental, and psychological services and
37 punitive damages, award damages in an amount that is the greater
38 of:

39 (1) the gross income or value to the defendant of the injured
40 party's labor or services; or

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 (2) the value of the injured party's labor or services as
2 determined by the "New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act," P.L.1963,
3 c.150 (C.34:11-56.25 et seq.), the "New Jersey State Wage and
4 Hour Law," P.L.1966, c.113 (C.34:11-56a et seq.), the Seasonal
5 Farm Labor Act, P.L.1945, c.71 (C.34:9A-1 et seq.), the laws
6 concerning the regulation of child labor in chapter 2 of Title 34 of
7 the Revised Statutes, or any other applicable State law, and the
8 "Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938," 29 U.S.C. s.201 et seq., or any
9 other applicable federal law.

10 d. In addition to any damages, penalty, injunction, or other
11 appropriate relief awarded in an action brought pursuant to this
12 section, the court may award to the injured person bringing suit
13 reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

14 (cf: P.L.2013, c.51, s.4)

15
16 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

17
18
19 STATEMENT

20
21 This bill would provide for civil actions against persons or
22 entities knowingly profiting from the commission of human
23 trafficking offenses, or maintaining the victims of such offenses,
24 even though such parties are not "acting in concert" with the
25 offender and thus not involved in any agreed-upon conspiracy with
26 the offender. In other words, these parties could be subject to a
27 civil suit if they are aware of human trafficking offenses and allow
28 such offenses to continue while receiving a pecuniary benefit from
29 such, or by maintaining the trafficking victims.

30 The bill thus would expand the statute providing for human
31 trafficking civil actions, section 4 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-8.1),
32 beyond its current scope, which addresses suits against any person
33 who commits the human trafficking offense and any conspiring
34 parties who are "acting in concert" with that person.

35
36
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39 Provides for civil actions against persons or entities profiting
40 from commission of human trafficking offenses, or maintaining
41 victims of such offenses.

SENATE, No. 2814

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires public transportation employees to complete training course on handling and responding to suspected human trafficking; requires inclusion of certain content in certain courses.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning certain training and certain employees and
2 amending P.L.2013, c.51.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 19 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-12) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 19. a. The Police Training Commission, in consultation with
10 the Attorney General and the Director of the Division of Criminal
11 Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, shall develop
12 and approve, as part of the police training courses required pursuant
13 to P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-66 et seq.), courses of study on the
14 handling, response procedures, investigation, and prosecution of
15 human trafficking cases. The courses shall include, at a minimum,
16 a demonstration of and information regarding known signs and
17 signals that may be used or communicated by victims of human
18 trafficking seeking assistance or may be observed by individuals in
19 public spaces. These courses shall be reviewed at least once every
20 two years and modified from time to time as need may require.

21 b. (1) The Department of Community Affairs, in consultation
22 with the Commission on Human Trafficking established by section
23 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), shall develop, approve, and
24 provide for a one-time training course on the handling and response
25 procedures of suspected human trafficking activities for owners,
26 operators, and staff of hotels and motels as defined in the "Hotel
27 and Multiple Dwelling Law," P.L.1967, c.76 (C.55:13A-1 et seq.);
28 or alternatively, the department, in consultation with the
29 commission, shall approve a substantially similar one-time training
30 course for use by hotels and motels in providing training to owners,
31 operators, and staff. The department, in consultation with the
32 commission, shall define by regulation which staff positions are
33 required, as a condition of employment, to attend the one-time
34 training course. Verifiable completion of the training course by
35 required staff shall be a condition of issuance, maintenance, or
36 renewal of any license, permit, certificate, or approval required,
37 permitted to be granted, or issued to owners or operators under the
38 provisions of the "Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Law," P.L.1967,
39 c.76 (C.55:13A-1 et seq.). The training course shall include, at a
40 minimum, a demonstration of and information regarding known
41 signs and signals that may be used or communicated by victims of
42 human trafficking seeking assistance or may be observed by
43 individuals in public spaces. The training course shall be reviewed
44 at least once every two years and modified by the department, in
45 consultation with the commission, from time to time as need may
46 require.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 (2) The Department of Community Affairs, through its oversight
2 and enforcement authority provided under the "Hotel and Multiple
3 Dwelling Law," P.L.1967, c.76 (C.55:13A-1 et seq.), shall be
4 responsible for ensuring that all hotel and motel owners, operators,
5 and required staff attend the one-time training course within one
6 year of the enactment of this section in the case of all current
7 owners, operators, and required staff engaging in their respective
8 profession on the effective date of this section, and within six
9 months of the first day of ownership, operation, or employment for
10 all new owners, operators, and required staff who initially engage in
11 their respective profession on a date that follows the effective date.

12 (3) The Department of Community Affairs shall make available
13 the training materials for the one-time training course to hotel and
14 motel owners, operators, and required staff in order for the owners,
15 operators, and required staff to fulfill the one-time training
16 requirement set forth in this subsection.

17 c. (1) The Department of Health, in consultation with the
18 Commission on Human Trafficking established by section 1 of
19 P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), shall develop, approve, and provide
20 for a one-time training course on the handling and response
21 procedures of suspected human trafficking activities for employees
22 of every licensed health care facility as defined in section 2 of
23 P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-2), including those professionals whose
24 professional practice is regulated pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised
25 Statutes; or alternatively, the department, in consultation with the
26 commission, shall approve for use a substantially similar one-time
27 training course provided by a recognized Statewide nonprofit
28 healthcare trade association with demonstrated experience in
29 providing course offerings to health care facility employees on
30 similar workplace matters. The department, in consultation with the
31 commission and the approved nonprofit course provider, if any,
32 shall define by regulation which employees are required, as a
33 condition of their employment, to attend the one-time training
34 course. Verifiable completion of the training course by required
35 employees shall be a condition of issuance, maintenance, or renewal
36 of any license, permit, certificate, or approval required, permitted to
37 be granted, or issued to licensed health care facilities under the
38 provisions of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et al.). The training
39 course shall include, at a minimum, a demonstration of and
40 information regarding known signs and signals that may be used or
41 communicated by victims of human trafficking seeking assistance
42 or may be observed by individuals in public spaces. The training
43 course shall be reviewed at least once every two years and modified
44 by the department, in consultation with the commission and the
45 approved nonprofit course provider, if any, from time to time as
46 need may require.

1 (2) The Department of Health, through its oversight and
2 enforcement authority provided under P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1
3 et al.), shall be responsible for ensuring that all required employees
4 of licensed health care facilities attend the one-time training course
5 within one year of the enactment of this section in the case of all
6 current employees engaging in their respective profession on the
7 effective date of this section, and within six months of the first day
8 of employment for all new employees who initially engage in their
9 respective profession on a date that follows the effective date. If an
10 approved nonprofit course provider is involved in providing the
11 one-time training course to new employees who initially engage in
12 their respective profession on a date that follows the effective date
13 of this section, then the nonprofit course provider shall provide the
14 training course at least once every six months in order for these
15 employees to meet the six-month training deadline established by
16 this paragraph.

17 (3) The Department of Health shall make available the training
18 materials for the one-time training course to required employees, or
19 to the approved nonprofit course provider, if any, in order for the
20 required employees to fulfill the one-time training requirement set
21 forth in this subsection.

22 d. (1) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall develop
23 and approve a training course and a curriculum to raise awareness
24 of judges and judicial personnel on the seriousness of the crime of
25 human trafficking, its impact on human rights and the need to
26 adequately implement anti-trafficking laws, including not only the
27 prosecution and sentencing of defendants charged with human
28 trafficking, but the need to respect and restore rights and needs of
29 victims of human trafficking. The training course shall include, at a
30 minimum, a demonstration of and information regarding known
31 signs and signals that may be used or communicated by victims of
32 human trafficking seeking assistance or may be observed by
33 individuals in public spaces. This training course shall be reviewed
34 at least once every two years and modified by the Administrative
35 Office of the Courts from time to time as need may require.

36 (2) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall make the
37 training course, curriculum, and supporting materials available to
38 appropriate judges and judicial personnel who may be involved
39 with the court-related aspects of human trafficking prosecutions
40 through annual in-service judicial training programs or other means.

41 e. (1) The New Jersey Transit Corporation, in consultation
42 with the Commission on Human Trafficking established by section
43 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), shall develop and provide a
44 one-time training course for public transportation employees on the
45 handling and response procedures for suspected human trafficking
46 activities. Alternatively, the New Jersey Transit Corporation, in
47 consultation with the commission, shall approve a substantially

1 similar one-time training course provided by a recognized nonprofit
2 association with demonstrated experience in providing course
3 offerings to public transportation employees. The New Jersey
4 Transit Corporation, in consultation with the commission and the
5 approved nonprofit course provider, if any, shall establish by
6 regulation which employees are required, as a condition of their
7 employment, to attend the one-time training course. The training
8 course shall include, at a minimum, a demonstration of and
9 information regarding known signs and signals that may be used or
10 communicated by victims of human trafficking seeking assistance
11 or may be observed by individuals in public spaces. The training
12 course shall be reviewed at least once every two years and modified
13 as needed by the New Jersey Transit Corporation, in consultation
14 with the commission and the approved nonprofit course provider, as
15 appropriate.

16 (2) The New Jersey Transit Corporation shall be responsible for
17 ensuring that all required employees attend the one-time training
18 course within two years of the enactment of P.L. , c. (C.)
19 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) in the case of all current
20 employees engaging in their respective profession on the effective
21 date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
22 bill), and within six months of the first day of employment for all
23 new employees who initially engage in their respective profession
24 after the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
25 Legislature as this bill). If an approved nonprofit course provider is
26 involved in providing the one-time training course to new
27 employees who initially engage in their respective profession after
28 the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
29 Legislature as this bill), then the nonprofit course provider shall
30 provide the training course at least once every six months in order
31 for these employees to meet the six-month training deadline.

32 (3) The New Jersey Transit Corporation shall make available to
33 public transportation employees the training materials for the one-
34 time training course.

35 f. Pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-238), the
36 Attorney General, in consultation with the Commission on Human
37 Trafficking established by section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-
38 237), may provide for the expenditures of monies from the "Human
39 Trafficking Survivor's Assistance Fund" to assist with the
40 development, maintenance, revision, and distribution of training
41 course materials for the courses developed in accordance with this
42 section, and the operation of these training courses.

43 (cf: P.L.2013, c.51, s.19)

44

45 2. This act shall take effect on the 90th day following
46 enactment.

STATEMENT

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This bill requires public transportation employees to complete a training course on how to handle and respond to suspected human trafficking.

Under the bill, the New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJT), in consultation with the Commission on Human Trafficking (commission), is required to develop and provide a one-time training course for public transportation employees on how to handle and respond to suspected human trafficking crimes. Alternatively, the NJT, in consultation with the commission, is required to approve a substantially similar one-time training course provided by a recognized nonprofit association with demonstrated experience in providing course offerings to public transportation employees. The NJT, in consultation with the commission and the approved nonprofit course provider, if applicable, is required to establish which employees are required to attend the one-time training course as a condition of their employment, review the training course at least every two years, and modify the training course as needed.

Under the bill, the NJT is responsible for ensuring that all required employees attend the one-time training course as specified within the bill. Additionally, the NJT is required to make available to public transportation employees the training materials for the one-time training course.

The bill also provides that any human trafficking training courses are required to include, at a minimum, a demonstration of and information regarding known signs and signals that may be used or communicated by victims of human trafficking seeking assistance or may be observed by individuals in public spaces.

SENATE, No. 1990

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Ruiz and Pou

SYNOPSIS

Requires transportation network company drivers to complete anti-human trafficking training course.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/12/2024)

S1990 GOPAL, SINGLETON

2

1 AN ACT concerning educational training for transportation network
2 company drivers and amending P.L.2017, c.26.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 16 of P.L.2017, c.26 (C.39:5H-16) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 16. A transportation network company shall require an
10 applicant, as defined in section 2 of P.L.2017, c.26 (C.39:5H-2), to
11 submit a transportation network company driver application to the
12 transportation network company. The application shall include the
13 applicant's address, age, and social security number, a copy of the
14 applicant's driver's license, motor vehicle registration, and
15 automobile liability insurance, and any other information required
16 by the transportation network company.

17 Prior to approval of an applicant, a transportation network
18 company shall provide an applicant with an anti-human trafficking
19 training course approved by the Attorney General and require the
20 applicant to complete the course. The training course may be
21 provided via web based video or digital format and shall include:
22 an overview of human trafficking, including how human trafficking
23 is defined; guidance on the role transportation network company
24 drivers play in reporting and responding to human trafficking; and
25 information on how to report suspected human trafficking.
26 (cf: P.L.2017, c.26, s.16)

27

28 2. Within 90 days of the effective date of this act, each
29 transportation network company shall provide each transportation
30 network company driver with an anti-human trafficking training
31 course approved by the Attorney General and require the applicant
32 to complete the course. The training course may be provided via
33 web based video or digital format and shall include: an overview of
34 human trafficking, including how human trafficking is defined;
35 guidance on the role transportation network company drivers play
36 in reporting and responding to human trafficking; and information
37 on how to report suspected human trafficking. Upon completion of
38 an anti-human trafficking training course, the driver shall certify to
39 any transportation network company whose digital network the
40 driver uses that the driver completed an anti-human trafficking
41 training course approved by the Attorney General. If a driver fails
42 to provide a transportation network company with the certification
43 required pursuant to this section, the transportation network
44 company shall prohibit the driver from utilizing its digital network

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 to provide rides until the driver submits the certification required
2 pursuant to this section.

3 On the 91st day following the effective date of this act, each
4 transportation network company shall create a list of drivers who
5 did not provide the certification required pursuant to this section by
6 the required date. Completion of the anti-human trafficking
7 training course, or failure to complete the course, shall be noted in
8 the individual record of each transportation network company driver
9 required to be maintained pursuant to section 25 of P.L.2017, c.26
10 (C.39:5H-25).

11
12 3. This act shall take effect on the 60th day following
13 enactment, except that the Attorney General shall take such
14 administrative action as may be necessary in advance of that date to
15 ensure the timely implementation of this act.

16

17

18 STATEMENT

19

20 This bill requires transportation network company (TNC) drivers
21 and applicants to complete an anti-human trafficking training
22 course, which is to be approved by the Attorney General. A TNC is
23 required to provide the anti-human trafficking course prior to the
24 approval of an applicant and to current TNC drivers within 90 days
25 of the bill's effective date. The anti-human trafficking training
26 course may be provided via web based video or digital format and is
27 required to include: (1) an overview of human trafficking, including
28 how human trafficking is defined; (2) guidance on the role TNC
29 drivers play in reporting and responding to human trafficking; and
30 (3) information on how to report suspected human trafficking.

31 Upon completion of the anti-human trafficking training course, a
32 TNC driver is required to certify to any TNC whose digital network
33 the driver uses that the driver completed an anti-human trafficking
34 training course. If a driver fails to provide a TNC with the required
35 certification, the TNC is required to prohibit the driver from
36 utilizing the TNC's digital network to provide rides until the driver
37 submits the required certification. The bill also requires each TNC
38 to create a list of drivers who did not provide the required
39 certification. Completion or failure to complete the anti-human
40 trafficking training course will be noted in the individual record of
41 each TNC driver and maintained by the TNC.



RECOMMENDED STATE LEGISLATION

Missing from Care Search Assistance Act

The Missing from Care Search Assistance Act empowers child welfare agencies to securely share records of missing children with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). These authorizations play a crucial role in allowing NCMEC to confidentially assess a missing child's risk factors, including the potential for sex trafficking, based on previous agency records. This information is vital for the targeted deployment of resources to aid in locating and returning the child to care.

The Missing from Care Search Assistance Act Benefits Child Welfare Agencies by:

- Strengthening cooperation for recovery support. The legislation enhances cooperation between state child welfare agencies and NCMEC, fostering the exchange of crucial information about missing children. This collaborative effort improves caseworkers' effectiveness in locating and recovering these children, ultimately supporting a more streamlined recovery process.
- Activating operational resources for swift recovery. The Act enables state child welfare agencies to effectively utilize NCMEC's expertise, forensic technology, and specialized recovery resources. This approach supports a proactive strategy for locating, recovering, and providing services to children missing from care.
- Reducing risks for child endangerments. The Act addresses the heightened risks faced by missing children by streamlining collaboration between child welfare agencies and NCMEC. Prompt sharing of vital information enables NCMEC to provide rapid technical assistance, contributing to the expedited location and recovery of children missing from care.

Enacted the Missing from Care Search Assistance Act or Similar Legislation:

AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE	FL	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME
MA	MD	MI	MN	MS	MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND	OH	OK	OR	PA
RI	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY	Enacted Law				No Law			

Recommended Legislative Action:

Authorize child welfare disclosures to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children for the purpose of assisting with locating, recovering or providing services to a child that is determined to be missing, or a victim of sex trafficking.

SENATE, No. 1989

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Ruiz

SYNOPSIS

Expands crime of human trafficking to include individuals who benefit financially.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning human trafficking and amending P.L.2005,
2 c.77.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2005, c. 77 (C.2C:13-8) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. Human trafficking. a. A person commits the crime of
10 human trafficking if he:

11 (1) knowingly holds, recruits, lures, entices, harbors, transports,
12 provides or obtains, by any means, another, to engage in sexual
13 activity as defined in paragraph (2) of subsection a. of
14 N.J.S.2C:34-1 or to provide labor or services:

15 (a) by causing or threatening to cause serious bodily harm or
16 physical restraint against the person or any other person;

17 (b) by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause
18 the person to believe that the person or any other person would
19 suffer serious bodily harm or physical restraint;

20 (c) by committing a violation of N.J.S.2C:13-5 against the
21 person;

22 (d) by destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or
23 possessing any passport, immigration-related document as defined
24 in section 1 of P.L.1997, c.1 (C.2C:21-31), or other document
25 issued by a governmental agency to any person which could be used
26 as a means of verifying the person's identity or age or any other
27 personal identifying information;

28 (e) by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of the law or legal
29 process;

30 (f) by means of fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation against the
31 person; or

32 (g) by facilitating access to a controlled dangerous substance or
33 controlled substance analog as set forth in chapter 35 of Title 2C of
34 the New Jersey Statutes; or

35 (2) receives anything of value from participation as an
36 organizer, supervisor, financier or manager or benefits financially in
37 a scheme or course of conduct which violates paragraph (1) or (3)
38 of this subsection; or

39 (3) knowingly holds, recruits, lures, entices, harbors, transports,
40 provides or obtains, by any means, a child under 18 years of age, to
41 engage in sexual activity as defined in paragraph (2) of subsection
42 a. of N.J.S.2C:34-1 or to provide labor or services, whether or not
43 the actor mistakenly believed that the child was 18 years of age or
44 older, even if that mistaken belief was reasonable.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 b. An offense under this section constitutes a crime of the first
2 degree.

3 c. It is an affirmative defense to prosecution for a violation of
4 this section that, during the time of the alleged commission of the
5 offense of human trafficking created by this section, the defendant
6 was a victim of human trafficking.

7 d. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.2C:43-6, the term of
8 imprisonment imposed for a crime of the first degree under
9 paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection a. of this section shall be either a
10 term of 20 years during which the actor shall not be eligible for
11 parole, or a specific term between 20 years and life imprisonment,
12 of which the actor shall serve 20 years before being eligible for
13 parole. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.2C:43-3, the
14 sentence for a conviction for a crime of the first degree under this
15 section shall include a fine in an amount of not less than \$25,000,
16 which shall be collected as provided for the collection of fines and
17 restitutions in section 3 of P.L.1979, c.396 (C.2C:46-4) and
18 forwarded to the Department of the Treasury to be deposited in the
19 "Human Trafficking Survivor's Assistance Fund" established by
20 section 2 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-238).

21 e. In addition to any other disposition authorized by law, any
22 person who violates the provisions of this section shall be ordered
23 to make restitution to any victim. The court shall award to the
24 victim restitution which is the greater of:

25 (1) the gross income or value to the defendant of the victim's
26 labor or services; or

27 (2) the value of the victim's labor or services as determined by
28 the "New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act," P.L.1963, c.150
29 (C.34:11-56.25 et seq.), the "New Jersey State Wage and Hour
30 Law," P.L.1966, c.113 (C.34:11-56a et seq.), the Seasonal Farm
31 Labor Act, P.L.1945, c.71 (C.34:9A-1 et seq.), the laws concerning
32 the regulation of child labor in chapter 2 of Title 34 of the Revised
33 Statutes, or any other applicable State law, and the "Fair Labor
34 Standards Act of 1938," 29 U.S.C. s.201 et seq., or any other
35 applicable federal law.

36 (cf: P.L.2013, c.51, s.3)

37

38 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

39

40

41

STATEMENT

42

43 The bill expands the reach of the statute by including those
44 individuals who receive a "financial benefit" from participating in
45 human trafficking without necessarily being an "organizer,
46 supervisor, financier or manager" of the enterprise or scheme.

47 Under the current law, a person commits the crime of human
48 trafficking if he:

- 1 (1) knowingly holds, recruits, lures, entices, harbors, transports,
2 provides or obtains, by any means, another, to engage in unlawful
3 sexual activity or to provide labor or services:
- 4 • by threats of serious bodily harm or physical restraint against the
5 person or any other person;
 - 6 • by means of any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause the
7 person to believe that the person or any other person would suffer
8 serious bodily harm or physical restraint;
 - 9 • by criminal coercion; or
 - 10 • by destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or possessing
11 any passport, immigration-related document or other government
12 document; or
 - 13 • by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of the law or legal
14 process; or
- 15 (2) receives anything of value from participation as an
16 organizer, supervisor, financier or manager in a scheme or course of
17 conduct which violates paragraph (1) of this subsection.



Child Survivor Address Confidentiality Act

The Child Survivor Address Confidentiality Act is legislation that enhances the protection of child survivors of sex trafficking and abduction by extending eligibility for enrollment in state address confidentiality and safe at home programs to these vulnerable victims. Program enrollees receive a substitute mailing address and confidential mail forwarding in order to keep the actual physical addresses of these survivors from public disclosure—and away from traffickers and abusers.

Child Survivor Address Confidentiality Act Benefits Children Survivors by:

- Shielding child survivors and their families from the risks of harassment and contact by abusers. Child survivors of trafficking, exploitation, and abduction often live in fear of their abusers. The Child Survivors Address Protection Act strengthens protections by shielding survivor addresses from public disclosure, providing substitute addresses, and offering free mail forwarding. These measures are designed prevent perpetrators from locating, harassing, and harming survivors. These protective measures are currently available to other victims of abuse crimes under existing state laws.
- Providing comprehensive protections for vulnerable child survivors. The Child Survivor Address Confidentiality Act ensures that child survivors of sex trafficking and abduction and their families, can access safety protections offered by state operated address confidentiality and safe at home programs. Extending these programs to include survivors of child sex trafficking and abduction, recognizes the unique vulnerabilities of these children.
- Supporting trauma-informed, child protection policies in state law. Child survivors of sex trafficking and abduction, like their counterparts in cases of domestic violence and sexual assault, often endure prolonged fear and trauma from victimization. The Child Survivor Address Confidentiality Act recognizes this shared experience and provides address confidentiality and safe at home protections to help empower child survivors of violent and abusive crimes to rebuild their lives.

Enacted the Child Survivor Address Confidentiality Act or Similar Legislation:

AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE	FL	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME
MA	MD	MI	MN	MS	MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND	OH	OK	OR	PA
RI	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY	Enacted Law		Partial Law		No Law			

Recommended Legislative Action:

Authorize child survivors of sex trafficking and abduction, and their families, to enroll in state address confidentiality and safe at home programs.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3960

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 4, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GABRIEL RODRIGUEZ

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Directs Commission on Human Trafficking to meet and compile report related to prevention of human trafficking during 2026 FIFA World Cup.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/4/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning the Commission on Human Trafficking.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. a. In anticipation of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, which is
7 scheduled, in part, to take place in New Jersey, the Commission on
8 Human Trafficking, established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2013,
9 c.51 (C.52:17B-237), shall hold one or more meetings of the
10 commission, the date for which to be determined by the chair of the
11 commission. The commission meetings and duties required
12 pursuant to this section shall be in addition to the duties required of
13 the commission under current law.

14 In order to identify the increased risk of human trafficking
15 crimes, and actions that may be taken by the State prior to and
16 during the 2026 FIFA World Cup to reduce these risks, the
17 commission shall meet and develop a report pursuant to this section.
18 The Commission may coordinate with non-profit organizations to
19 develop the report.

20 b. It shall be the duty of the commission to:

21 (1) evaluate existing law concerning human trafficking, and
22 make recommendations for legislation, guidelines, and directives to
23 be issued by the Attorney General to address the potential increase
24 in human trafficking related crimes prior to and during the 2026
25 FIFA World Cup;

26 (2) review existing assistance programs and analyze whether
27 there is a need to expand current programs or initiate new programs
28 in order to respond to the increased risk of human trafficking crimes
29 prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup;

30 (3) promote a coordinated response to the increased risk in
31 human trafficking crimes related to the 2026 FIFA World Cup by
32 public and private resources prior to and during the event; and

33 (4) prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup, develop
34 mechanisms to increase the public awareness of human trafficking,
35 victim remedies and services, and trafficking prevention including
36 the creation of public awareness signs to inform the State that
37 persons may be trafficked into the State and United States.

38 c. The report shall include, but not be limited to,
39 recommendations on:

40 (1) best practices the State may take in order to increase
41 awareness of trafficking and ways to identify trafficking victims;

42 (2) information campaigns that raise awareness of the risk of
43 human trafficking at large events, such as the 2026 FIFA World
44 Cup;

45 (3) the issuance of public service announcements throughout the
46 State prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup to inform
47 soccer fans that persons may be trafficked into the State and United
48 States prior to and during the event;

- 1 (4) the State establishing additional human trafficking hotlines
2 for a period of time prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup;
3 (5) changes that may be made to State laws related to human
4 trafficking;
5 (6) guidelines and directives to be issued by the Attorney
6 General concerning the identification of and response by law
7 enforcement and prosecuting agencies to the potential increase in
8 human trafficking related crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA
9 World Cup;
10 (7) engaging State and local organizations to aid with assessing
11 risk and adopting necessary mitigation strategies; and
12 (8) any other issues the Commission deems relevant for the
13 prevention of and response to human trafficking during the 2026
14 FIFA World Cup.
- 15 d. (1) In accordance with section 2 of P.L.2021, c.3 (C.52:17B-
16 237.1), the commission shall develop and determine the language
17 for a public awareness sign related to the 2026 FIFA World Cup
18 that contains the national, 24-hour toll-free hotline telephone
19 service on human trafficking.
- 20 (2) Any establishment required to display a public awareness
21 sign pursuant to subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.2021, c.3
22 (C.52:17B-237.1) shall also, in accordance with that section,
23 display the public awareness sign related to the 2026 FIFA World
24 Cup developed pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection.
- 25 e. The Commission shall provide a report to the Governor and
26 Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
27 19.1), of its findings and recommendations related to the 2026 FIFA
28 World Cup no later than 180 days after the date of enactment of
29 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
- 30 f. The Attorney General shall issue guidelines and directives
31 concerning the identification of and response by law enforcement
32 and prosecuting agencies to the increased risk of human trafficking
33 crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

34
35 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

36
37
38 STATEMENT

39
40 This bill requires the Commission on Human Trafficking to issue
41 a report to the Governor and Legislature related to anti-trafficking
42 efforts the State may undertake as a host of the 2026 FIFA World
43 Cup.

44 The bill requires the commission to:

- 45 (1) evaluate existing law concerning human trafficking, and
46 make recommendations for legislation and attorney general
47 guidelines and directives to address the potential increase in human

1 trafficking related crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World
2 Cup;

3 (2) review existing assistance programs and analyze whether the
4 programs need to be expanded to respond to the increased risk of
5 human trafficking crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World
6 Cup;

7 (3) promote a coordinated response by public and private
8 resources prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup; and

9 (4) develop mechanisms to promote public awareness of human
10 trafficking, victim remedies and services, and trafficking prevention
11 including the creation of a public awareness sign to inform the State
12 that persons may be trafficked into the State and United States prior
13 to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

14 Under the bill, the report is required to include, but not be
15 limited to, recommendations on:

16 (1) best practices the State may take in order to raise awareness
17 of trafficking and how to identify trafficking victims;

18 (2) information campaigns that raise awareness of the risk of
19 human trafficking at large events;

20 (3) the State issuing public service announcements prior to and
21 during the World Cup to inform soccer fans that persons may be
22 trafficked into the State and United States during the event;

23 (4) the State establishing additional human trafficking hotlines
24 for a period of time leading up to and during the World Cup;

25 (5) changes that may be made to State laws related to human
26 trafficking;

27 (6) guidelines and directives to be issued by the Attorney
28 General concerning the identification of and response by law
29 enforcement and prosecuting agencies to the potential increase in
30 human trafficking related crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA
31 World Cup;

32 (7) engaging State and local organizations to aid with assessing
33 risk and adopting necessary mitigation strategies; and

34 (8) any other issues the Commission deems relevant for the
35 prevention of human trafficking during the World Cup.

36 The bill also requires the Commission to develop for distribution
37 a public awareness sign related to the World Cup and requires any
38 entity or business which is currently required to post human
39 trafficking signs to also post the public awareness sign related to the
40 World Cup.

41 The commission is required to publish the report six months after
42 the effective date of the bill.

43 Finally, the bill requires the Attorney General to issue directives
44 to any or all law enforcement and prosecuting agencies in the State
45 related to the identification of and response to the increased risk of
46 human trafficking crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World
47 Cup.



RECOMMENDED STATE LEGISLATION

The Define Child Sexual Abuse Material Act

The Define Child Sexual Abuse Material Act (The Define CSAM Act) is legislation that replaces the term "child pornography" and similar terminology in state law with the term "child sexual abuse material" to more accurately convey the severity and traumatic impact of the crime on child victims.

The Define CSAM Act Benefits Children and their Families by:

- Communicating the true circumstances of child sexual abuse imagery. Under the Define CSAM Act, the term "child sexual abuse material" communicates the actual circumstances of a child's abuse, and the trauma inflicted on children by the memorialization of the abuse and the distribution of abusive imagery by offenders.
- Ensuring an accurate statutory representation of the criminal nature of child sexual abuse imagery. Images and videos of the rape and sexual abuse of children are crime scene photos. The Define CSAM Act revises statutory terms to reflect the actual crime against children, rather than the euphemistic reference to pornography, which connotes legal sexual activity.
- Emphasizing the absence of consent, control and choice for child victims depicted in sexual abuse imagery. The Define CSAM Act eliminates any legal or consensual connotations associated with the term "child pornography." The shift to "child sexual abuse material" underscores the absence of consent, control, and choice for child victims, providing lawmakers with a more accurate and direct representation of the criminal nature of these activities.
- Providing awareness about the illicit nature and trauma associated with child sexual abuse imagery and preventing public desensitization to this form of child exploitation. Understanding the influence of language on public perception, the Define CSAM Act replaces colloquial terms with precise terminology to raise awareness and prevent desensitization to the severity of child sexual abuse.

Enacted the Define CSAM Act or Similar Legislation:

AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE	FL	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME
MA	MD	MI	MN	MS	MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND	OH	OK	OR	PA
RI	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY							Enacted Law	No Law

Recommended Legislative Action:

Replace any occurrences of the term "*child pornography*" and similar terminology appearing in the state code with the term "*child sexual abuse material*."



The Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act

The Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act (UCAPA) is model state legislation created by the Uniform Law Commission to protect children from the trauma of a family abduction. UCAPA provides statutory guidelines for custody disputes and proceedings that help family courts determine whether the risk factors reflect a credible risk of child abduction; apply specific civil remedies to reduce the abduction risk to the child; and enforce safeguards to prevent misuse and abuse of the law.

UCAPA Benefits Children and their Families by:

- Reducing the risks for a child abductions by family members. UCAPA serves as a crucial tool for preventing the wrongful removal or retention of a child by a parent or family member. By allowing parents and legal guardians with credible evidence of abduction risk to file a petition, family courts can intervene and issue civil orders with specific provisions and measures tailored to prevent abduction.
- Providing clear judicial guidance for family court judges to make informed decisions about real abduction risks. UCAPA equips family courts with a comprehensive list of abduction risk factors to consider when determining the credibility of a potential abduction threat. These factors include prior abduction attempts, domestic violence, stalking, refusal to follow custody determinations, and international ties.
- Codifying civil remedies and safeguards to ensure family courts are consistently applying the law to protect children: UCAPA equips family courts with civil remedies to address abduction risks, including abduction deterrent bonds, travel restrictions, supervised visits, and surrendering passports. UCAPA also includes statutory safeguards to prevent misuse and abuse of the statute, including, good faith protections for domestic violence victims.
- Ensuring cross-jurisdictional cooperation and enhanced legal certainty for families to keep children safe in any jurisdiction. UCAPA encourages cooperation and communication among courts, fostering a cohesive approach to preventing child abduction and promoting the well-being of children involved in custody disputes across jurisdictions.

Enacted UCAPA or Similar Legislation:

AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE	FL	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME
MA	MD	MI	MN	MS	MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND	OH	OK	OR	PA
RI	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY	Enacted Law					No Law		

Recommended Legislative Action:

Enact the Uniform Law Commission's [Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act](#).