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)

New Jersey Commission on Human Trafficking
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.
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.

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.

What is the NJ Human Trafficking Task Force

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

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-END-NJ-HT

855-363-6548
HOW TO TALK TO YOUTH ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A Guide for Youth Caretakers and Individuals Working with Youth

This guide is not intended to be distributed directly to 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.

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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/bluencampaign.
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MYTH</th>
<th>REALITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When someone is trafficked, they are kidnapped and held against their will.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffickers are older men who prey on young girls.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only girls are sex trafficked.</td>
<td>Youth of all genders are vulnerable to experiencing sex trafficking. This includes boys, transgender youth, nonbinary, and non-conforming youth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth experiencing human trafficking do not go to school.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffickers target victims they do not know.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only undocumented individuals are forced labor victims.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forced labor doesn’t occur in legal or legitimate business settings.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DO</th>
<th>DON’T</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Use victimizing language. Using language that invokes fear and highlights weaknesses may discourage youth from taking any protective action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 relief 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

@dhbluecampaign

Learn more about immigration assistance at: dhs.gov/blue-campaign/immigration-assistance
2C:13-8. Human trafficking

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.A.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.A.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

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.

Current with laws through L.2023, c. 194 and J.R. No. 15.
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.
AN ACT concerning certain victims and witnesses and amending P.L.1985, c.126.

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

1. Section 1 of P.L.1985, c.126 (C.2A:84A-32.4) is amended to read as follows:
   1. (a) (1) In prosecutions for aggravated sexual assault, sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual contact, criminal sexual contact, human trafficking [involving sexual activity], a crime involving domestic violence as defined in section 3 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-19), endangering the welfare of a child pursuant to N.J.S.2C:24-4, abuse or neglect of a child pursuant to R.S.9:6-3, or in any action alleging an abused or neglected child under P.L.1974, c.119 (C.9:6-8.21 et seq.), the court may, on motion and after conducting a hearing in camera, order the taking of the testimony of a victim or witness on closed circuit television at the trial, out of the view of the jury, defendant, or spectators upon making findings as provided in subsection b. of this section.
   (2) In granting such an order, the court shall assure that:
      (a) the victim or witness will testify under oath;
      (b) the victim or witness will submit to cross-examination by the defendant's attorney; and
      (c) the defendant, jury, and judge will be permitted to observe the demeanor of the victim or witness when making testimonial statements using closed circuit television.
   b. An order under this section may be made only if the court determines by clear and convincing evidence that there is a substantial likelihood that the victim or witness would suffer severe emotional or mental distress if required to testify in the presence of spectators, the defendant, the jury, or all of them. The order shall be specific as to whether the victim or witness will testify outside the presence of spectators, the defendant, the jury, or all of them and shall be based on specific findings relating to the impact of the presence of each.
   c. A motion seeking closed circuit testimony under subsection a. of this section may be filed by:
      (1) The victim or witness or, in the case of a victim or witness who is under the age of 18, the victim's or witness's attorney, parent or legal guardian;
      (2) The prosecutor; or
      (3) The defendant or the defendant's counsel; or
      (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.
The defendant’s counsel shall be present in the same room as the victim or witness at the taking of testimony on closed circuit television. The defendant and the defendant’s attorney shall be able to confer privately with each other during the testimony by a separate audio system.

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

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

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

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

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

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill would permit all victims and witnesses of human trafficking to testify in criminal proceedings via closed circuit television. Under current law, victims and witnesses of human trafficking involving sexual activity, among others, are permitted to
testify via closed circuit television. Also under current law, the victim or witness, the prosecutor, or the defendant or their counsel may make a motion seeking closed circuit testimony. The bill 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.
AN ACT concerning human trafficking and amending P.L.2013, c.121 and supplementing Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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

1. a. There is hereby created, in the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, a commission to be known as the Commission on Human Trafficking, consisting of 15 members as follows: the Attorney General, or his designee; the Commissioner of Children and Families, or his designee; the Commissioner of Human Services, or his designee; a county prosecutor, appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the County Prosecutors Association of the State of New Jersey; one member of the New Jersey Human Trafficking Task Force established within the Department of Law and Public Safety, designated by the Attorney General; two public members appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the Senate President, one representing law enforcement and one representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the Senate Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health care facility or mental health services; two public members appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the General Assembly, one representing law enforcement and one representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the Assembly Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health care facility or mental health services; and four public members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a representative of a child advocacy organization concerning missing, abducted, or exploited children, and one of whom shall be a human trafficking survivor. All public members shall have experience with, possess a background in, or demonstrate a specialized knowledge of, the legal, policy, educational, social, or psychological aspects of human trafficking.

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

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

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

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.
President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the General Assembly; each member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate and Assembly Minority Leaders; and two members appointed by the Governor.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) Develop mechanisms to promote public awareness of human trafficking, including promotion of the national, 24-hour toll-free hotline telephone service on human trafficking described under
section 18 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-11) and other initiatives, including, but not limited to, the Red Sand Project set forth in P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), and the promotion of training courses and other educational materials for use by persons required under section 19 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-12) to undergo training on the handling of and response procedures for suspected human trafficking activities.

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

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

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

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

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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

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

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

Under current law, the Commission on Human Trafficking is required to, among other things, develop mechanisms to promote public awareness of human trafficking, including promotion of the national, 24-hour toll-free hotline telephone service on human
trafficking. This bill would require the commission to develop mechanisms to promote the Red Sand Project.

The Red Sand Project was created by artist Molly Gochman and involves pouring red sand in the cracks of sidewalks to promote awareness of human trafficking and to recognize the human trafficking victims who metaphorically “fall through the cracks” of our social, economic, and political systems.
Eliminates statute of limitations for prosecution of human trafficking crimes.

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.
AN ACT concerning the statute of limitations and amending

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

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

2C:1-6. Time Limitations. a. (1) A prosecution for any offense
of P.L.2005, c.77 (C.2C:13-8), or sections 1 through 5 of P.L.2002,
c.26 (C.2C:38-1 through C.2C:38-5) may be commenced at any
time.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
establish the identification of the actor by means of comparison to
the physical evidence.

d. A prosecution is commenced for a crime when an indictment
is found and for a nonindictable offense when a warrant or other
process is issued, provided that such warrant or process is executed
without unreasonable delay. Nothing contained in this section,
however, shall be deemed to prohibit the downgrading of an offense
at any time if the prosecution of the greater offense was commenced
within the statute of limitations applicable to the greater offense.

e. The period of limitation does not run during any time when a
prosecution against the accused for the same conduct is pending in
this State.

f. The limitations in this section shall not apply to any person
fleeing from justice.

g. Except as otherwise provided in this code, no civil action
shall be brought pursuant to this code more than five years after
such action accrues.

(cf: P.L.2007, c.131, s.1).

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

STATEMENT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) the gross income or value to the defendant of the injured 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.
(2) the value of the injured party'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.

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

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

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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

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

Provides for civil actions against persons or entities profiting
from commission of human trafficking offenses, or maintaining
victims of such offenses.
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.
AN ACT concerning certain training and certain employees and
amending P.L.2013, c.51.

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

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

  19. a. The Police Training Commission, in consultation with
the Attorney General and the Director of the Division of Criminal
Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, shall develop
and approve, as part of the police training courses required pursuant
to P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-66 et seq.), courses of study on the
handling, response procedures, investigation, and prosecution of
human trafficking cases. The courses shall 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. These courses shall be reviewed at least once every
two years and modified from time to time as need may require.

  b. (1) The Department of Community Affairs, in consultation
with the Commission on Human Trafficking established by section
1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), shall develop, approve, and
provide for a one-time training course on the handling and response
procedures of suspected human trafficking activities for owners,
operators, and staff of hotels and motels as defined in the "Hotel
or alternatively, the department, in consultation with the
commission, shall approve a substantially similar one-time training
course for use by hotels and motels in providing training to owners,
operators, and staff. The department, in consultation with the
commission, shall define by regulation which staff positions are
required, as a condition of employment, to attend the one-time
training course. Verifiable completion of the training course by
required staff shall be a condition of issuance, maintenance, or
renewal of any license, permit, certificate, or approval required,
permitted to be granted, or issued to owners or operators under the
provisions of the "Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Law," P.L.1967,
c.76 (C.55:13A-1 et seq.). The training course shall 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. The training course shall be reviewed
at least once every two years and modified by the department, in
consultation with the commission, from time to time as need may
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.
(2) The Department of Community Affairs, through its oversight and enforcement authority provided under the "Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Law," P.L.1967, c.76 (C.55:13A-1 et seq.), shall be responsible for ensuring that all hotel and motel owners, operators, and required staff attend the one-time training course within one year of the enactment of this section in the case of all current owners, operators, and required staff engaging in their respective profession on the effective date of this section, and within six months of the first day of ownership, operation, or employment for all new owners, operators, and required staff who initially engage in their respective profession on a date that follows the effective date.

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

c. (1) The Department of Health, in consultation with the Commission on Human Trafficking established by section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), shall develop, approve, and provide for a one-time training course on the handling and response procedures of suspected human trafficking activities for employees of every licensed health care facility as defined in section 2 of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-2), including those professionals whose professional practice is regulated pursuant to Title 45 of the Revised Statutes; or alternatively, the department, in consultation with the commission, shall approve for use a substantially similar one-time training course provided by a recognized Statewide nonprofit healthcare trade association with demonstrated experience in providing course offerings to health care facility employees on similar workplace matters. The department, in consultation with the commission and the approved nonprofit course provider, if any, shall define by regulation which employees are required, as a condition of their employment, to attend the one-time training course. Verifiable completion of the training course by required employees shall be a condition of issuance, maintenance, or renewal of any license, permit, certificate, or approval required, permitted to be granted, or issued to licensed health care facilities under the provisions of P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et al.). The training course shall 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. The training course shall be reviewed at least once every two years and modified by the department, in consultation with the commission and the approved nonprofit course provider, if any, from time to time as need may require.
(2) The Department of Health, through its oversight and enforcement authority provided under P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et al.), shall be responsible for ensuring that all required employees of licensed health care facilities attend the one-time training course within one year of the enactment of this section in the case of all current employees engaging in their respective profession on the effective date of this section, and within six months of the first day of employment for all new employees who initially engage in their respective profession on a date that follows the effective date. If an approved nonprofit course provider is involved in providing the one-time training course to new employees who initially engage in their respective profession on a date that follows the effective date of this section, then the nonprofit course provider shall provide the training course at least once every six months in order for these employees to meet the six-month training deadline established by this paragraph.

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

d. (1) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall develop and approve a training course and a curriculum to raise awareness of judges and judicial personnel on the seriousness of the crime of human trafficking, its impact on human rights and the need to adequately implement anti-trafficking laws, including not only the prosecution and sentencing of defendants charged with human trafficking, but the need to respect and restore rights and needs of victims of human trafficking. The training course shall 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. This training course shall be reviewed at least once every two years and modified by the Administrative Office of the Courts from time to time as need may require.

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

e. (1) The New Jersey Transit Corporation, in consultation with the Commission on Human Trafficking established by section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), shall develop and provide a one-time training course for public transportation employees on the handling and response procedures for suspected human trafficking activities. Alternatively, the New Jersey Transit Corporation, in consultation with the commission, shall 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 New Jersey
Transit Corporation, in consultation with the commission and the
approved nonprofit course provider, if any, shall establish by
regulation which employees are required, as a condition of their
employment, to attend the one-time training course. The training
course shall 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. The training
course shall be reviewed at least once every two years and modified
as needed by the New Jersey Transit Corporation, in consultation
with the commission and the approved nonprofit course provider, as
appropriate.

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

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

Pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-238), the
Attorney General, in consultation with the Commission on Human
Trafficking established by section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-
237), may provide for the expenditures of monies from the "Human
Trafficking Survivor's Assistance Fund" to assist with the
development, maintenance, revision, and distribution of training
course materials for the courses developed in accordance with this
section, and the operation of these training courses.
(cf: P.L.2013, c.51, s.19)

2. This act shall take effect on the 90th day following
enactment.
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.
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.
AN ACT concerning educational training for transportation network company drivers and amending P.L.2017, c.26.

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

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

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

Prior to approval of an applicant, a transportation network company shall provide an applicant with an anti-human trafficking training course approved by the Attorney General and require the applicant to complete the course. The training course may be provided via web based video or digital format and shall include: an overview of human trafficking, including how human trafficking is defined; guidance on the role transportation network company drivers play in reporting and responding to human trafficking; and information on how to report suspected human trafficking.

(cf: P.L.2017, c.26, s.16)

2. Within 90 days of the effective date of this act, each transportation network company shall provide each transportation network company driver with an anti-human trafficking training course approved by the Attorney General and require the applicant to complete the course. The training course may be provided via web based video or digital format and shall include: an overview of human trafficking, including how human trafficking is defined; guidance on the role transportation network company drivers play in reporting and responding to human trafficking; and information on how to report suspected human trafficking. Upon completion of an anti-human trafficking training course, the driver shall certify to any transportation network company whose digital network the driver uses that the driver completed an anti-human trafficking training course approved by the Attorney General. If a driver fails to provide a transportation network company with the certification required pursuant to this section, the transportation network 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.
to provide rides until the driver submits the certification required pursuant to this section.

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

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

STATEMENT

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

Upon completion of the anti-human trafficking training course, a TNC driver is required to certify to any TNC whose digital network the driver uses that the driver completed an anti-human trafficking training course. If a driver fails to provide a TNC with the required certification, the TNC is required to prohibit the driver from utilizing the TNC’s digital network to provide rides until the driver submits the required certification. The bill also requires each TNC to create a list of drivers who did not provide the required certification. Completion or failure to complete the anti-human trafficking training course will be noted in the individual record of each TNC driver and maintained by the TNC.
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 |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| RI | SD | TN | TX | UT | VT | VA | WA | WV | WI | WY |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

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

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

1. Section 1 of P.L.2005, c. 77 (C.2C:13-8) is amended to read as follows:
   1. 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; or
      (2) receives anything of value from participation as an organizer, supervisor, financier or manager or benefits financially in a scheme or course of conduct which violates paragraph (1) or (3) 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 or to provide labor or services, whether or not the actor mistakenly believed that the child was 18 years of age or 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.
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


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

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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

Under the current law, 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 unlawful sexual activity or to provide labor or services:

• by threats of serious bodily harm or physical restraint against the person or any other person;

• 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;

• by criminal coercion; or

• by destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or possessing any passport, immigration-related document or other government document; or

• by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of the law or legal process; 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.
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 |
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| 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.
AN ACT concerning the Commission on Human Trafficking.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) the issuance of public service announcements throughout the State prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup to inform soccer fans that persons may be trafficked into the State and United States prior to and during the event;
(4) the State establishing additional human trafficking hotlines for a period of time prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup;
(5) changes that may be made to State laws related to human trafficking;
(6) guidelines and directives to be issued by the Attorney General concerning the identification of and response by law enforcement and prosecuting agencies to the potential increase in human trafficking related crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup;
(7) engaging State and local organizations to aid with assessing risk and adopting necessary mitigation strategies; and
(8) any other issues the Commission deems relevant for the prevention of and response to human trafficking during the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

d. (1) In accordance with section 2 of P.L.2021, c.3 (C.52:17B-237.1), the commission shall develop and determine the language for a public awareness sign related to the 2026 FIFA World Cup that contains the national, 24-hour toll-free hotline telephone service on human trafficking.
(2) Any establishment required to display a public awareness sign pursuant to subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.2021, c.3 (C.52:17B-237.1) shall also, in accordance with that section, display the public awareness sign related to the 2026 FIFA World Cup developed pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection.

e. The Commission shall provide a report to the Governor and Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), of its findings and recommendations related to the 2026 FIFA World Cup no later than 180 days after the date of enactment of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

f. The Attorney General shall issue guidelines and directives concerning the identification of and response by law enforcement and prosecuting agencies to the increased risk of human trafficking crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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

The bill requires the commission to:
(1) evaluate existing law concerning human trafficking, and make recommendations for legislation and attorney general guidelines and directives to address the potential increase in human
trafficking related crimes prior to and during the 2026 FIFA World Cup;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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**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 (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.