
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING PREVENTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that sex trafficking is a
2 pervasive problem that is part of the larger phenomenon of
3 commercial sexual exploitation. A 2020 report by the Office of
4 Sex Trafficking Intervention Research of Arizona State
5 University and the Hawaii state commission on the status of
6 women noted that sex trafficking victims have been found
7 throughout Hawaii's urban and rural areas and include youth who
8 attend school. The report also observed that "lack of a general
9 understanding of the scope and complexity of sex trafficking in
10 Hawai'i has allowed the victimization of Hawai'i residents to
11 continue". Similarly, the national human trafficking resource
12 center observed that the widespread lack of awareness and
13 understanding of human trafficking has resulted in low levels of
14 survivor identification by the people who most often encounter
15 them. Because trafficking occurs in legitimate business
16 settings and residential neighborhoods in addition to
17 underground markets, exploited or trafficked persons are often



1 in plain view and interacting with unsuspecting community
2 members.

3 The legislature also finds that the adverse impacts of sex
4 trafficking are far-reaching and affect individuals, families,
5 and communities. Further, traffickers may target school-aged
6 children by having classmates or peers befriend the victim and
7 lure the victim to parties and other activities. Traffickers
8 also use social media platforms and websites to attract
9 potential victims. Yet, victims are often reluctant to report
10 their traffickers, who commonly employ tactics such as emotional
11 manipulation and control, intimidation, threats, and deceit. In
12 some cases, the trafficker may be a family member or romantic
13 partner of the victim.

14 For these reasons, the legislature recognizes the urgent
15 need for educational and outreach activities that will help to
16 identify and prevent sex trafficking before it occurs.

17 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require:

- 18 (1) The posting of informational placards containing
19 information on sex trafficking and resources available
20 to sex trafficking victims, in public buildings and at
21 other specified locations;



1 (2) The department of education to provide training to
2 teachers, school administrators, and other school
3 personnel on the dynamics of sex trafficking and
4 strategies for prevention and response; and

5 (3) The department of the attorney general to develop and
6 implement a series of public education and outreach
7 events on the dynamics of sex trafficking and the
8 importance of community involvement in sex trafficking
9 prevention and response efforts, and to appropriate
10 funds to the department for this purpose.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
12 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
13 read as follows:

14 "§27- Sex trafficking; posting of notice required. (a)
15 Each of the locations specified below, upon the availability of
16 the model placard described in subsection (c), shall have posted
17 in a conspicuous place, near the public entrance or in another
18 conspicuous location in clear view of the public and of
19 employees where similar notices are customarily posted, an
20 informational placard that complies with the requirements of
21 this section:



1 (1) All offices of state agencies under the executive,
2 judicial, and legislative branches;

3 (2) All offices of county agencies;

4 (3) All school campuses under the jurisdiction of the
5 department of education; and

6 (4) All offices and classrooms of each school campus in
7 the university of Hawaii system.

8 (b) The informational placard required to be posted
9 pursuant to subsection (a) shall be at least eight and one-half
10 inches by eleven inches in size, written in a sixteen-point font
11 or larger, and include the following information:

12 (1) An explanation of sex trafficking and typical forms of
13 sex trafficking;

14 (2) That victims of sex trafficking are protected under
15 federal and state law;

16 (3) The availability of informational resources and
17 support, including the National Human Trafficking
18 Hotline; and

19 (4) Detailed information on the National Human Trafficking
20 Hotline, including specific statements that the
21 hotline:



- 1 (A) May be reached by calling a telephone number, to
2 be printed on the placard, or by sending a text
3 message to a number, to be printed on the
4 placard, to access help and services;
- 5 (B) Is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days
6 a week, every day of the year;
- 7 (C) Can provide help, referral to services, training,
8 and general information in more than two hundred
9 languages; and
- 10 (D) Is operated by a nonprofit, non-governmental
11 organization and that communications with the
12 hotline are anonymous and confidential.

13 (c) No later than January 1, 2024, the department of human
14 services shall develop a model placard that complies with the
15 requirements of this section and shall make the model placard
16 available for download on the department's website."

17 SECTION 3. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by adding a new section to part III, subpart B, to be
19 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

20 "**§302A- Sex trafficking prevention and response**
21 **training.** (a) The department shall provide training for

1 teachers, educational officers, and school-based behavioral
2 health specialists on the dynamics of sex trafficking and
3 strategies for prevention and response, including:

4 (1) Methods used by sex traffickers to lure children into
5 sex trafficking;

6 (2) Ways to identify victims of sex trafficking;

7 (3) Effects of sex trafficking on a victim's social,
8 mental, and physical health;

9 (4) Impacts of sex trafficking on children of different
10 racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations,
11 and gender identities;

12 (5) Strategies to assist in the prevention of child sex
13 trafficking;

14 (6) Trauma-informed strategies for responding to victims
15 of sex trafficking;

16 (7) Informational resources for victims of sex
17 trafficking;

18 (8) Information on victim service providers that provide
19 services to students who have been identified as
20 victims of sex trafficking or who are at risk of
21 victimization; and



1 (9) Information on the importance of obtaining
2 enthusiastic consent, in the context of dating and
3 intimate relationships, with respect to preventing sex
4 trafficking and other forms of sexual violence.

5 (b) At the beginning of each school year, the department
6 shall provide teachers, educational officers, and school-based
7 behavioral health specialists with explanatory information on
8 department-approved protocols for providing services to
9 identified victims of sex trafficking.

10 (c) The department may coordinate and contract with any
11 state or county department or agency, any victim service
12 provider, or any other expert in the field of sex trafficking
13 prevention and response to carry out its duties under this
14 section.

15 (d) As used in this section, "victim service provider"
16 means any non-governmental organization that provides direct
17 intervention, social, medical, mental health, behavioral health,
18 legal, case management, educational, emergency, or housing
19 services to victims of sex trafficking."

20 SECTION 4. (a) The department of the attorney general
21 shall develop and implement a series of public education and



1 outreach events on the dynamics of sex trafficking and the
2 importance of community involvement in sex trafficking
3 prevention and response efforts. The events shall be held in
4 each of the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, Maui, and Honolulu and
5 may include town hall-style events and staffing of informational
6 booths or tables at existing community-based events. The
7 information to be disseminated by the department shall include
8 the following:

- 9 (1) Vulnerable populations and risk factors for sex
10 trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation,
11 including community-level risk factors and
12 society-level risk factors;
- 13 (2) Specific locations in each county where confirmed sex
14 trafficking has occurred;
- 15 (3) Laws that criminalize sex trafficking, including
16 penalties faced by convicted sex traffickers;
- 17 (4) Methods used by sex traffickers to lure victims into
18 sex trafficking;
- 19 (5) Ways to identify victims of sex trafficking;
- 20 (6) Effects of sex trafficking on a victim's social,
21 mental, and physical health;



1 (7) Adverse impacts of sex trafficking on victims'
2 families and on communities in which sex trafficking
3 occurs;

4 (8) Actions that community members can take to support sex
5 trafficking prevention and response efforts;

6 (9) Informational resources for victims of sex
7 trafficking, including the availability of services
8 for victims; and

9 (10) Information on state and national hotlines for victims
10 and witnesses of sex trafficking.

11 (b) The department of the attorney general may coordinate
12 and contract with any state or county department or agency, any
13 victim service provider, or any other expert in the field of sex
14 trafficking prevention and response to carry out its duties
15 under this section.

16 (c) As used in this section, "victim service provider"
17 means any non-governmental organization that provides direct
18 intervention, social, medical, mental health, behavioral health,
19 legal, case management, educational, emergency, or housing
20 services to victims of sex trafficking.



1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
 3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
 4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
 5 year 2024-2025 for the department of the attorney general to
 6 develop and implement the public education and outreach events
 7 required by section 4 of this Act.

8 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 9 of the attorney general for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
 12 provided that section 5 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,
 13 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Kanae Solly*

JAN 23 2023



H.B. NO. 867

Report Title:

Commercial Sexual Exploitation; Sex Trafficking; Prevention and Response; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the posting of informational placards on sex trafficking and resources available to victims, in public buildings and at other specified locations, and the development of a model placard by the Department of Human Services. Requires the Department of Education to train teachers, school administrators, and other school personnel on the dynamics of sex trafficking and strategies for prevention and response. Requires the Department of the Attorney General to develop and implement public education and outreach events on the dynamics of sex trafficking and the importance of community involvement in prevention and response efforts. Appropriates funds.

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