## **Department of Law**



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## Sex Trafficking and Human Trafficking Highlights

- New Offense Series and Sentencing: classifies Sex Trafficking as a crime against a person and amends the conduct criminalized to address how trafficking occurs.
  - Sex Trafficking in the First Degree (Unclassified Sex Felony):
    - If the person uses force on another person to induce or cause them to engage in commercial sexual acts;
    - If the person traffics a person who is under the age of 20 or is in the trafficker's legal custody; or
    - If the person manages supervises or controls a prostitution enterprise or place of prostitution.
  - o Sex Trafficking in the Second Degree (Class A Sex Felony):
    - If the person recruits, entices, or otherwise induces or causes another person to engage in commercial sexual acts.
  - Sex Trafficking in the Third Degree (Class B Felony/Value Greater than \$200; Class C Felony/Value Less Than \$200):
    - If the person provides services, resources, or other assistance in furtherance of sex trafficking.
  - Enhanced sentencing penalties and registration requirements for sex trafficking:
    - Sex trafficking in the first and second degrees will be sentenced under enhanced penalties for sexual felonies, and the offender will be required to register as a sex offender.

- Sex trafficking in the third degree will be sentenced under enhanced sexual felony sentences, but the offender will *not* be required to register as a sex offender.
- Enacts new crime of "Patron of a Victim of Sex Trafficking": If they solicit sexual acts with reckless disregard that the person they are soliciting is a victim of sex trafficking.
  - o Patron of a victim of sex trafficking is a class B sex felony if the victim is under 18 years of age, and a class C sex felony if the person is over 18 years of age. This offense is also a registerable sex offense.

## • Clarifies Human Trafficking is about labor and is different from Sex Trafficking

- o <u>Human Trafficking in the First Degree (Unclassified Felony):</u>
  - If the person induces or causes a person to engage in adult entertainment or labor by force or if they traffic a person who is under the age of 20.
- Human Trafficking in the Second Degree (Class A Felony):
  - If the person induces or causes another person to engage in adult entertainment or labor by methods such as:
    - o Exposing or threatening to expose confidential information;
    - o Threatening to report a person to a governmental agency;
    - o Instilling in the other person a fear that the person will withhold lodging, food, clothing, or medication.
- Human Trafficking in the Third Degree (Class B Felony/Value Greater than \$200; Class C Felony/Value Less Than \$200):
  - If the person provides services, resources, or other assistance in furtherance of human trafficking.

## • Increased penalties for "Johns"

- Increases the classification for patronizing sex workers from a class B misdemeanor to a class A misdemeanor with mandatory minimum jail terms of 72 hours on a second conviction.
- o A third conviction within 5 years will be increased to a class C felony.

• Vacation of a conviction of prostitution: establishes a process for a person who has been convicted of prostitution or low level drug possession to have that conviction vacated if the person is able to show they were a victim of sex trafficking at the time they committed the offense.