



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

**Raised Bill No. 5358**

LCO No. 709

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Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT INTERAGENCY TASK  
FORCE ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2004*) (a) There is established a  
2 permanent interagency task force on trafficking in persons. For the  
3 purposes of this section, "trafficking" means all acts involved in the  
4 recruitment, abduction, transport, harboring, transfer, sale or receipt of  
5 persons, within national or across international borders, through force,  
6 coercion, fraud or deception, to place persons in situations of slavery  
7 or slavery-like conditions, forced labor or services, such as forced  
8 prostitution or sexual services, domestic servitude, bonded sweatshop  
9 labor or other debt bondage.

10 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members or their  
11 designees:

12 (1) The Attorney General;

13 (2) The Chief State's Attorney;

14 (3) The Chief Public Defender;

- 15 (4) The Commissioner of Public Safety;
- 16 (5) The Labor Commissioner;
- 17 (6) The Commissioner of Social Services;
- 18 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health;
- 19 (8) The Commissioner of Children and Families;
- 20 (9) The Child Advocate;
- 21 (10) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
22 committee of the General Assembly on the judiciary;
- 23 (11) The chairperson of the Commission on Children;
- 24 (12) The chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status of  
25 Women;
- 26 (13) The chairperson of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs  
27 Commission;
- 28 (14) The chairperson of the African-American Affairs Commission;
- 29 (15) A municipal police chief appointed by the Connecticut Police  
30 Chiefs Association; and
- 31 (16) Seven public members appointed as follows: The Governor  
32 shall appoint one member who shall represent Connecticut Sexual  
33 Assault Crisis Services, Inc.; the president pro tempore of the Senate  
34 shall appoint one member who shall represent an organization that  
35 provides civil legal services to low-income individuals; the speaker of  
36 the House of Representatives shall appoint one member who shall  
37 represent the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence; the  
38 majority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall  
39 represent an organization that deals with behavioral health needs of  
40 women and children; the majority leader of the House of

41 Representatives shall appoint one member who shall represent an  
42 organization that advocates on social justice and human rights issues;  
43 the minority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall  
44 represent the Connecticut Immigrant and Refugee Coalition; and the  
45 minority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint one  
46 member who shall represent the Asian-American community.

47 (c) The chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status of  
48 Women or the chairperson's designee shall schedule the first meeting  
49 of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the  
50 effective date of this section. The task force shall select a chairperson  
51 from among its membership. The Permanent Commission on the  
52 Status of Women shall provide any necessary support staff or services  
53 for the task force.

54 (d) The task force shall:

55 (1) Collect and organize data on the nature and extent of trafficking  
56 in persons in the state;

57 (2) Investigate collaborative models for protecting victims of  
58 trafficking;

59 (3) Measure and evaluate the progress of the state in (A) preventing  
60 trafficking, (B) protecting and providing assistance to victims of  
61 trafficking, and (C) prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking.

62 (4) Identify available federal, state and local programs that provide  
63 services to victims of trafficking that include, but are not limited to,  
64 health care, human services, housing, education, legal assistance, job  
65 training or preparation, interpreting services, English as a second  
66 language classes, voluntary repatriation and victim's compensation;

67 (5) Evaluate approaches to increase public awareness of trafficking;

68 (6) Analyze existing state criminal statutes for their adequacy in  
69 addressing trafficking and, if such analysis determines that those

70 statutes are inadequate, recommend revisions to those statutes or the  
71 enactment of new statutes that specifically define and address  
72 trafficking; and

73 (7) Consult with governmental and nongovernmental organizations  
74 in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to  
75 prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of trafficking and  
76 prosecute traffickers.

77 (e) All state and local agencies shall cooperate with the task force  
78 and provide such data and other information as the task force may  
79 require in carrying out its duties under this section.

80 (f) The task force shall report its initial findings and  
81 recommendations to the General Assembly in accordance with section  
82 11-4a of the general statutes not later than January 1, 2006, and  
83 annually thereafter on January first.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2004</i>

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a permanent interagency task force on the practice of trafficking in persons.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*