



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 153

LCO No. 1077

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Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.**

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

1 Section 1. Special act 04-8 is amended to read as follows (*Effective*
2 *from passage*):

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

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

13 (1) The Attorney General;

14 (2) The Chief State's Attorney;

- 15 (3) The Chief Public Defender;
- 16 (4) The Commissioner of Public Safety;
- 17 (5) The Labor Commissioner;
- 18 (6) The Commissioner of Social Services;
- 19 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health;
- 20 (8) The Commissioner of Children and Families;
- 21 (9) The Child Advocate;
- 22 (10) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
23 committee of the General Assembly on the judiciary;
- 24 (11) The chairperson of the Commission on Children;
- 25 (12) The chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status of
26 Women;
- 27 (13) The chairperson of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs
28 Commission;
- 29 (14) The chairperson of the African-American Affairs Commission;
- 30 (15) A municipal police chief appointed by the Connecticut Police
31 Chiefs Association; [and]
- 32 (16) Three representatives of the Judicial Branch appointed by the
33 Chief Court Administrator, one of whom shall be a representative of
34 the Office of Victim Services and one of whom shall be a representative
35 of the Court Support Services Division; and
- 36 [(16)] (17) Seven public members appointed as follows: The
37 Governor shall appoint one member who shall represent Connecticut
38 Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.; the president pro tempore of the
39 Senate shall appoint one member who shall represent an organization

40 that provides civil legal services to low-income individuals; the
41 speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member
42 who shall represent the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic
43 Violence; the majority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member
44 who shall represent an organization that deals with behavioral health
45 needs of women and children; the majority leader of the House of
46 Representatives shall appoint one member who shall represent an
47 organization that advocates on social justice and human rights issues;
48 the minority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall
49 represent the Connecticut Immigrant and Refugee Coalition; and the
50 minority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint one
51 member who shall represent the Asian-American community.

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

59 (d) The task force shall:

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

62 (2) Investigate collaborative models for protecting victims of
63 trafficking;

64 (3) Measure and evaluate the progress of the state in (A) preventing
65 trafficking, (B) protecting and providing assistance to victims of
66 trafficking, and (C) prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking;

67 (4) Identify available federal, state and local programs that provide
68 services to victims of trafficking that include, but are not limited to,
69 health care, human services, housing, education, legal assistance, job

70 training or preparation, interpreting services, English as a second
71 language classes, voluntary repatriation and victim's compensation;

72 (5) Evaluate approaches to increase public awareness of trafficking,
73 and implement such approaches;

74 (6) Analyze existing state criminal statutes for their adequacy in
75 addressing trafficking and, if such analysis determines that those
76 statutes are inadequate, recommend revisions to those statutes or the
77 enactment of new statutes that specifically define and address
78 trafficking; [and]

79 (7) Consult with governmental and nongovernmental organizations
80 in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to
81 prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of trafficking and
82 prosecute traffickers;

83 (8) Address access to rights, benefits and services for victims of
84 trafficking including, but not limited to:

85 (A) Medical and related professional services;

86 (B) Legal services and protections;

87 (C) Safe housing and shelter;

88 (D) Voluntary repatriation;

89 (E) Victim's compensation; and

90 (F) Protection while in custody; and

91 (9) Identify criteria for providing victim services.

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

95 (f) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to

96 the General Assembly in accordance with section 11-4a of the general
97 statutes not later than January 1, [2006] 2007.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | SA 04-8 |

Statement of Purpose:

To continue the existence of the interagency task force on trafficking in persons, increase its membership and expand its duties.

[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.]