



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 759**

January Session, 2007

Substitute Senate Bill No. 940

*Senate, May 7, 2007*

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. HARP of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO  
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) The Office of Victim  
2 Services in the Judicial Department shall contract with  
3 nongovernmental organizations to develop a coordinated response  
4 system to assist victims of the offense of trafficking in persons.

5 (b) Such contracts shall be entered into for the following purposes,  
6 including, but not limited to:

7 (1) Developing a uniform curriculum to address rights and services  
8 for victims;

9 (2) Developing information and materials on available resources  
10 and services for victims of trafficking in persons;

11 (3) Actively seeking out quality training and other educational  
12 opportunities regarding the identification and assistance of victims of

13 trafficking in persons that take into consideration such victims' cultural  
14 context and needs; and

15 (4) Promoting and disseminating information on training and other  
16 educational opportunities concerning the assistance of victims of  
17 trafficking in persons to emergency medical services, faith-based  
18 communities, sexual assault service providers, domestic violence  
19 service providers and state and local governmental agencies.

20 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a  
21 Trafficking in Persons Council consisting of (1) the Attorney General,  
22 (2) the Chief State's Attorney, (3) the Victim Advocate, (4) the Chief  
23 Public Defender, (5) the Commissioners of Public Safety, Social  
24 Services, Public Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services,  
25 Children and Families and the Labor Commissioner, (6) the Child  
26 Advocate, (7) the chairpersons of the Commission on Children,  
27 Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, Latino and Puerto  
28 Rican Affairs Commission and the African-American Affairs  
29 Commission, (8) a municipal chief appointed by the Connecticut Police  
30 Chiefs Association, (9) three representatives of the judicial branch  
31 appointed by the Chief Court Administrator, one of whom shall be a  
32 representative of the Office of Victim Services, and one of whom shall  
33 be a representative of the Court Support Services Division, and (10)  
34 seven public members (A) one of whom shall be a representative of the  
35 Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc. appointed by the  
36 Governor, (B) one of whom shall be a representative of an organization  
37 that provides civil legal services to low-income individuals appointed  
38 by the president pro tempore of the Senate, (C) one of whom shall be a  
39 representative of the Connecticut Coalition against Domestic Violence  
40 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, (D) one of  
41 whom shall be a representative of an organization that deals with the  
42 behavioral health needs of women and children appointed by the  
43 majority leader of the Senate, (E) one of whom shall be a representative  
44 of an organization that advocates social justice and human rights  
45 issues appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
46 Representatives, (F) one of whom shall be a representative of the

47 Connecticut Immigrant and Refugee Coalition appointed by the  
 48 minority leader of the Senate, and (G) one of whom shall be a  
 49 representative of the Asian American community, appointed by the  
 50 minority leader of the House of Representatives.

51 (b) The council shall (1) identify criteria for providing services to  
 52 adult trafficking victims; (2) identify criteria for providing services to  
 53 the children of trafficking victims; (3) consult with governmental and  
 54 nongovernmental organizations to develop recommendations to  
 55 strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking in persons, to  
 56 protect and assist victims of trafficking and to prosecute traffickers;  
 57 and (4) exchange information related to trafficking in persons and  
 58 provide progress reports on and updates on efforts related to the  
 59 prevention of trafficking and assisting victims. The council may  
 60 request data and other information from state and local agencies to  
 61 carry out its duties under this section.

62 (c) The Executive Director of the Permanent Commission on the  
 63 Status of Women shall serve as the chairperson of the council. The  
 64 council shall meet not less than three times per year. The members of  
 65 the council shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed  
 66 for necessary expenses incurred in the course of their duties.

67 (d) The council shall report on its activities and recommendations to  
 68 the Governor and the General Assembly in accordance with section 11-  
 69 4a of the general statutes not later than January 1, 2008, and annually  
 70 thereafter.

71 (e) The Trafficking in Persons Council shall be within the Permanent  
 72 Commission on the Status of Women for administrative purposes only.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**PS**      *Joint Favorable C/R*

APP

**APP**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Implements Budget, Cost	100,000	130,000
Various State Agencies	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

Section 1 requires the Office of Victim Services within the Judicial Department to contract with nongovernmental organizations to develop a coordinated response system to assist victims of the offense of trafficking in persons. Funding is provided in sHB 7077 (the Appropriations Act for the 2007-2009 Biennium, as favorably reported from the Appropriations Committee) for this purpose.

Section 2 establishes a Trafficking in Persons Council. Various state agencies could incur minimal costs to reimburse members for expenses they incur while participating in the Trafficking in Persons Council that the bill establishes. It is anticipated that these state agencies would not require additional appropriations to comply with the bill.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 940*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO  
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill creates a 26-member council to, among other things, recommend ways to (1) strengthen state and local efforts to prevent people trafficking (which the bill does not define), (2) protect trafficking victims, and (3) prosecute traffickers. The council is within the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) for administrative purposes only, and the commission's executive director serves as chairperson.

The bill also requires the Office of Victim Services (OVS) to contract with nongovernmental organizations to develop a coordinated response system to help trafficking victims.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon passage for the council; October 1, 2007 for the OVS contracting provision.

**TIP COUNCIL*****Council Duties***

The bill establishes a Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Council to:

1. consult with government and other organizations to develop recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent people trafficking, protect and help victims, and prosecute traffickers;
2. identify criteria for providing services to trafficking victims;
3. exchange information on people trafficking; and

4. provide progress reports and updates on trafficking prevention efforts and victim assistance (but does not say to whom).

The council may request data and other information from state and local agencies to carry out its duties.

**Council Membership**

The council consists of the following members:

1. the attorney general;
2. the chief state's attorney;
3. the victim advocate;
4. the chief public defender;
5. the commissioners of public safety, social services, public health, mental health and addiction services, children and families, and labor;
6. the child advocate;
7. the chairpersons of the Children’s, Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs, and African-American Affairs commissions;
8. a municipal chief, appointed by the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association;
9. three Judicial Branch representatives appointed by the chief court administrator, with one representing OVS and one the Court Support Services Division; and
10. seven public members representing various groups, appointed by the governor and legislative leaders (see Table 1).

**TABLE 1: TIP COUNCIL PUBLIC MEMBER APPOINTMENTS**

<i>Representing</i>	<i>Appointing Authority</i>
Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis	governor

Services, Inc.	
An organization that provides civil legal services to low-income individuals	Senate president pro tempore
Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence	House speaker
An organization that deals with the behavioral health needs of women and children	Senate majority leader
Organization that advocates social justice and human rights issues	House majority leader
Connecticut Immigrant and Refugee Coalition	Senate minority leader
Asian-American community	House minority leader

### ***Council Meetings and Reports***

The council must meet at least three times per year. Members are not compensated but must be reimbursed for necessary expenses.

The council must annually report on its activities and recommendations to the governor and legislature beginning January 1, 2008.

### **OVS CHARGE**

The bill requires OVS to contract with nongovernmental organizations to develop a coordinated response system to help victims of trafficking. The purpose of the contracts must be to:

1. develop a uniform curriculum to address victims' rights and services;
2. develop information and material on available resources and services for victims;
3. actively seek out quality training and other educational opportunities for identifying and helping victims, taking into consideration their cultural context and needs; and
4. promote and disseminate information on training and other

education concerning assistance for victims to emergency medical services, faith-based communities, sexual assault service providers, domestic violence service providers, and state and local government agencies.

**BACKGROUND**

***Related Bill***

Senate Bill 398 (File 561) creates a 26-member TIP council to perform the same functions in this bill.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 23 Nay 0 (03/06/2007)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 50 Nay 0 (04/17/2007)