



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 51

January Session, 2013

Senate Bill No. 834

Senate, March 18, 2013

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. HARTLEY, J. of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COUNCIL.

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

1 Section 1. Section 46a-170 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) There is established a Trafficking in Persons Council that shall be
4 within the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women for
5 administrative purposes only.

6 (b) The council shall consist of the following members: The Attorney
7 General, the Chief State's Attorney, the Chief Public Defender, the
8 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Labor
9 Commissioner, the Commissioner of Social Services, the Commissioner
10 of Public Health, the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction
11 Services, the Commissioner of Children and Families, the Child
12 Advocate, the Victim Advocate, the chairperson of the Commission on
13 Children, the chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status

14 of Women, the chairperson of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs
15 Commission, the chairperson of the African-American Affairs
16 Commission, three representatives of the Judicial Branch appointed by
17 the Chief Court Administrator, one of whom shall represent the Office
18 of Victim Services and one of whom shall represent the Court Support
19 Services Division, and a municipal police chief appointed by the
20 Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, or a representative of any such
21 member who has been designated in writing by such member to serve
22 as such member's representative, and seven public members appointed
23 as follows: The Governor shall appoint one member who shall
24 represent Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc., the
25 president pro tempore of the Senate shall appoint one member who
26 shall represent an organization that provides civil legal services to low-
27 income individuals, the speaker of the House of Representatives shall
28 appoint one member who shall represent the Connecticut Coalition
29 Against Domestic Violence, the majority leader of the Senate shall
30 appoint one member who shall represent an organization that deals
31 with behavioral health needs of women and children, the majority
32 leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member who
33 shall represent an organization that advocates on social justice and
34 human rights issues, the minority leader of the Senate shall appoint
35 one member who shall represent the Connecticut Immigrant and
36 Refugee Coalition, and the minority leader of the House of
37 Representatives shall appoint one member who shall represent the
38 Asian-American community.

39 (c) The chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status of
40 Women shall serve as chairperson of the council. The members of the
41 council shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for
42 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

43 (d) The council shall: (1) Hold meetings to provide updates and
44 progress reports, (2) identify criteria for providing services to adult
45 trafficking victims, (3) identify criteria for providing services to
46 children of trafficking victims, and (4) consult with governmental and
47 nongovernmental organizations in developing recommendations to

48 strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and
49 assist victims of trafficking and prosecute traffickers. [The council shall
50 meet at least three times per year.]

51 (e) The council may request data and other information from state
52 and local agencies to carry out its duties under this section.

53 (f) Not later than January 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, the
54 council shall submit a report of its activities, including any
55 recommendations for legislation, to the General Assembly in
56 accordance with section 11-4a.

57 (g) For the purposes of this section, "trafficking" means all acts
58 involved in the recruitment, abduction, transport, harboring, transfer,
59 sale or receipt of persons, within national or across international
60 borders, through force, coercion, fraud or deception, to place persons
61 in situations of slavery or slavery-like conditions, forced labor or
62 services, such as forced prostitution or sexual services, domestic
63 servitude, bonded sweatshop labor or other debt bondage.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	46a-170

PS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill eliminates the requirement that the Trafficking in Persons Council meet at least three times per year. This does not result in a savings to the state, since members are not reimbursed for any expenses incurred in performance of duties associated with this Council.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 834*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COUNCIL.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill eliminates the mandate for the Trafficking in Persons Council to meet at least three times per year, thereby allowing the council to meet at will, including once or twice per year. By law, the council must annually report to the legislature on its activities and recommended legislation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Trafficking in Persons Council***

This 26-member council is within the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women for administrative purposes only. Its charge is to

1. consult with the government and other organizations in developing recommendations to (a) strengthen state and local government efforts to prevent trafficking, (b) protect and help victims of trafficking, and (c) prosecute traffickers;
2. identify criteria for providing services to adult trafficking victims and their children; and
3. hold meetings and release public updates and progress reports.

The law defines “trafficking” as all acts involved in recruiting, abducting, transporting, harboring, transferring, selling, or receiving people within national or across international borders, using force, coercion, fraud, or deception, to place them in (1) situations of slavery or slavery-like conditions; (2) forced labor or services, such as forced

prostitution or sexual services; (3) domestic servitude; (4) bonded sweatshop labor; or (5) other debt bondage (CGS § 46a-170(g)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 24 Nay 0 (02/28/2013)