

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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HB-6657

AN ACT CONCERNING HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

As Amended by House "A" (LCO 8465), House "B" (LCO 8397)
House Calendar No.: 349

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 22 \$ | FY 23 \$ |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Judicial Dept. (Probation); Correction, Dept. | GF - Potential Cost | See Below | See Below |
| Resources of the General Fund | GF - Potential Revenue Gain | See Below | See Below |

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill broadens the crimes of patronizing a prostitute and commercial sexual abuse of a minor to include when they are committed based on an agreement to exchange anything of value, instead of an agreement for a fee, as under current law and results in a potential cost for incarceration or probation and a potential revenue gain from fines. On average, the marginal cost to the state for incarcerating an offender for the year is \$2,200¹ while the average marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$700² each year.

¹ Inmate marginal cost is based on increased consumables (e.g. food, clothing, water, sewage, living supplies, etc.) This does not include a change in staffing costs or utility expenses because these would only be realized if a unit or facility opened.

² Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

Primary Analyst: PR
Contributing Analyst(s):
Reviewer: ME

5/13/21

The bill makes various changes to laws affecting human trafficking, including increasing the membership to the Trafficking in Persons Council, compelling witness testimony, and affirmative defense for trafficking victims, which do not result in a fiscal impact.

The bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to train emergency medical services (EMS) personnel to identify and report suspected human trafficking. As DCF currently provides this training adding EMS personnel has no fiscal impact.

House "A" narrows eligibility for vacatur relief and provides procedural clarification for someone seeking vacatur relief and does not result in a fiscal impact.

House "B" makes a reporting requirement to the Trafficking in Persons Council and does not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of violations.