

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PROTECTION FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that existing legislation  
2 and law enforcement activities in Hawaii are inadequate to deter  
3 human trafficking and to bring traffickers to justice. Hawaii  
4 law does not penalize the full range of offenses involved in the  
5 trafficking scheme. Instead, even the most brutal instances of  
6 trafficking are punished under laws that also apply to lesser  
7 offenses, allowing traffickers to escape deserved punishment.

8           The legislature also finds that the United States Congress  
9 passed the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act,  
10 the first comprehensive piece of legislation aimed at addressing  
11 the range of injustices perpetrated by traffickers. Likewise,  
12 to deter human trafficking, Hawaii must recognize that  
13 trafficking is a serious offense. This is done, in the first  
14 instance, by prescribing appropriate punishment and ensuring  
15 that state anti-trafficking laws are compatible with the Victims  
16 of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act.

17           The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force to  
18 determine how Hawaii can best combat and deter human



1 trafficking, which is a contemporary manifestation of slavery,  
2 to ensure just and effective punishment of traffickers, prevent  
3 or reduce human trafficking, and protect the rights of  
4 trafficked persons.

5 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the Hawaii anti-  
6 trafficking task force. The anti-trafficking task force is to  
7 be comprised of the following:

- 8 (1) The attorney general, or the attorney general's  
9 designees;
- 10 (2) The directors of health, human services, and labor, or  
11 their designees;
- 12 (3) The chief of police of each county or the chief's  
13 designee;
- 14 (4) The prosecuting attorney of each county, or the  
15 prosecutor's designee, and the director of the victim  
16 and witness assistance program of the department of  
17 the prosecuting attorney, city and county of Honolulu;
- 18 (5) The Salvation Army;
- 19 (6) Sisters Offering Support;
- 20 (7) The Sex Abuse Treatment Center;
- 21 (8) GirlFest;



1 (9) Na Loio Immigrant Rights and Public Interest Legal  
2 Center;

3 (10) The Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline;  
4 and

5 (11) The Hawaii State Coalition Against Sexual Assault.  
6 The task force members shall serve without compensation but  
7 shall be reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses,  
8 necessary for the performance of their duties.

9 (b) The task force shall carry out the following  
10 activities:

11 (1) Compile and review statutes, rules, and information  
12 relating to programs adopted in other states to combat  
13 human trafficking and to provide services to its  
14 victims;

15 (2) Recommend further changes to Hawaii law necessary to  
16 assist in the prevention of human trafficking and to  
17 provide support to victims;

18 (3) Develop protocols and training for individuals within  
19 designated state agencies, nongovernmental  
20 organizations, and private entities regarding  
21 provision of services to trafficked persons;

1 (4) Develop interagency procedures to collect and organize  
2 data, including research and resource information on  
3 domestic trafficking, and to measure the extent of the  
4 need for protection and assistance to victims of  
5 trafficking; and

6 (5) Engage in consultation with governmental and  
7 nongovernmental organizations, among other entities,  
8 to advance the purposes of this Act.

9 (c) The anti-trafficking task force is authorized to seek  
10 federal grants available to states, local government, and  
11 nonprofit organizations for personnel, training, services, and  
12 programs that are related to the task force's activities.

13 (d) Not less than twenty days prior to the convening of  
14 the regular sessions of 2007 and 2008, the task force shall  
15 provide to the legislature a report on its activities.

16 (e) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2008.

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for  
20 the purpose of supporting the work of the anti-trafficking task  
21 force established by section 2, including the payment of

1 reasonable travel expenses for task force members to attend  
2 meetings.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
4 the attorney general for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Human Trafficking; Criminal Offenses; Protection of Victims

**Description:**

Establishes a task force to compile and review law and information from other states regarding support for victims of human trafficking and to recommend changes to Hawaii law and programs. (SD2)

