

710A.2 Human trafficking.

1. A person who knowingly engages in human trafficking is guilty of a class “B” felony, except that if the victim is under the age of eighteen, the person is guilty of a class “A” felony.

2. A person who knowingly engages in human trafficking by causing or threatening to cause serious physical injury to another person is guilty of a class “A” felony.

3. A person who knowingly engages in human trafficking by physically restraining or threatening to physically restrain another person is guilty of a class “B” felony, except that if the victim is under the age of eighteen, the person is guilty of a class “A” felony.

4. A person who knowingly engages in human trafficking by soliciting services or benefiting from the services of a victim is guilty of a class “B” felony, except that if the victim is under the age of eighteen, the person is guilty of a class “A” felony.

5. A person who knowingly engages in human trafficking by abusing or threatening to abuse the law or legal process is guilty of a class “B” felony, except that if the victim is under the age of eighteen, the person is guilty of a class “A” felony.

6. A person who knowingly engages in human trafficking by knowingly destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or possessing any actual or purported government identification of another person is guilty of a class “B” felony, except if that other person is under the age of eighteen, the person is guilty of a class “A” felony.

7. A person who benefits financially or by receiving anything of value from knowing participation in human trafficking is guilty of a class “B” felony, except that if the victim is under the age of eighteen, the person is guilty of a class “A” felony.

8. A person who knowingly engages in human trafficking by knowingly providing or facilitating the provision of a forged, altered, or fraudulent license purportedly issued pursuant to [chapter 152C](#) or [157](#), or a forged, altered, or fraudulent government identification to another person, to force, coerce, entice, assist, facilitate, or permit the other person to perform labor or services is guilty of a class “D” felony, except if that other person is under the age of eighteen, the person is guilty of a class “B” felony.

9. A person who knowingly engages in human trafficking by knowingly forcing, coercing, enticing, assisting, facilitating, or permitting another person in possession of a forged, altered, or fraudulent license purportedly issued pursuant to [chapter 152C](#) or [157](#), or a forged, altered, or fraudulent government identification, to produce such license or government identification upon request of a peace officer pursuant to [section 152C.5B](#) or [157.4A](#), is guilty of a class “D” felony, except if that other person is under the age of eighteen, the person is guilty of a class “B” felony.

10. A person’s ignorance of the age of the victim or a belief that the victim was older is not a defense to a violation of [this section](#).

11. A person who is found guilty or who enters a plea of guilty to a violation of [this chapter](#) shall be ineligible for a license pursuant to [chapter 152C](#) or [157](#) for a period of not less than five years from the date of conviction, plea, judgment, or sentence.

12. A person who is sentenced under the provisions of [this section](#) shall not be eligible for a deferred judgment or a deferred or suspended sentence.

[2006 Acts, ch 1074, §3](#); [2012 Acts, ch 1057, §3](#); [2013 Acts, ch 90, §187](#); [2021 Acts, ch 123, §6, 7](#); [2023 Acts, ch 87, §1](#)

Referred to in [§9E.2](#), [152C.5](#), [256.146](#), [692A.102](#), [710A.3](#), [710A.5](#), [802.2D](#), [907.3](#), [911.2A](#), [911.2B](#), [915.94](#), [915.95](#)
Section amended