



HF 2355 – Human Trafficking Office (LSB5128HV.1)
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Fiscal Note Version – Revised (new information from the department)

Description

House File 2355 establishes an office within the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to coordinate and oversee efforts to combat the crime of human trafficking within the state of Iowa. Duties of the office include:

- Be the point of contact for anti-human trafficking activity within the state of Iowa.
- Consult and work with other agencies and organizations having expertise in dealing with the crime of human trafficking.
- Develop a strategy to collect and maintain criminal history data on incidents related to human trafficking.
- Develop a strategy for sharing victim and offender data among governmental agencies.
- Apply for and assist other governmental agencies to apply for grants to combat human trafficking.
- Research and recommend training to identify and respond to human trafficking victims.
- Report by November 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, to the General Assembly regarding the office's activities related to combatting human trafficking, and the identified occurrences of human trafficking within the state.

Background

Human trafficking is the illegal trade of people, including sexual exploitation and labor trafficking. It is estimated that human trafficking is second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable international crime. Victims enter into human trafficking through a variety of actions, including force, fraud, and coercion.

During the 2015 Legislative Session, the ending balance of the **Mortgage Servicing Settlement Fund** was transferred to the Office of the Attorney General (AG) to establish the **Human Trafficking Enforcement Fund**.¹ That money was to be used by the Crime Victim Assistance Division (CVAD) of the AG to develop and conduct outreach, public awareness, and training programs related to human trafficking for certain populations. As of February 2016, there is approximately \$603,000 in the Human Trafficking Enforcement Fund, and a plan is being developed for use of the funds. The AG was also allowed in **SF 510** to use up to \$300,000 per year from the **Victim Compensation Fund** to provide training to professionals concerning victim services, homicide, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, harassment, and human trafficking. **House File 2355** will direct the coordination of investigative and victim advocate training, investigative response, a criminal intelligence collection strategy, the coordination of information sharing among law enforcement, governmental and nongovernmental agencies, and apply for and assist agencies when applying for grants associated with combatting human trafficking in Iowa.

¹ **SF 510** (Standing Appropriations Act)

Assumptions

The DPS currently has designated a state trooper as the Human Trafficking Training Coordinator for the Department. This position is also responsible for the coordination of human trafficking issues related to training and outreach. This trooper will act as the coordinator as outlined in this bill.

If funding becomes available, the DPS will add the following positions and support at a cost of \$483,000. That estimate includes:

- 4.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, including a special agent in charge, two special agent 2 positions, and one criminal intelligence analyst senior. The total salary and benefit cost for these positions is \$345,000. These costs are based on entry-level figures, but the actual costs could be higher if the positions are filled by current employees.
- Support of \$138,000 including vehicles, travel, weapons, computers, etc. during FY 2017. This cost is expected to decrease to \$30,000 in FY 2018.

Fiscal Impact

The DPS will implement the proposed legislation with no additional cost at this time.

Sources

Iowa Department of Public Safety
Iowa Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Justice

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the LSA upon request.
