

Senate File 340 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 340

BY ZAUN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for a human trafficking task force and
2 providing information in an annual report to the general
3 assembly.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 80.45B Human trafficking task
2 force.

3 1. The commissioner shall establish, by January 30, 2024, a
4 task force that shall do all of the following:

5 a. Collaborate with the office to combat human trafficking.

6 b. Examine the extent of human trafficking of minors in the
7 state.

8 c. Identify current initiatives to eliminate human
9 trafficking of minors in the state.

10 d. Identify current services available in the state to minor
11 victims of human trafficking.

12 e. Research and recommend a model of rehabilitative services
13 for minor victims of human trafficking that includes input from
14 law enforcement, social services organizations, the judicial
15 system, and mental health professionals.

16 f. Identify barriers that prevent minor victims of human
17 trafficking from seeking legal assistance or medical attention.

18 g. Create a procedure to be followed by all law enforcement
19 officers statewide if a law enforcement officer encounters a
20 minor who may be a victim of human trafficking. For purposes
21 of this section, "law enforcement officer" means an officer
22 appointed by the director of the department of natural
23 resources, a member of a police force or other agency or
24 department of the state, county, city, or tribal government
25 regularly employed as such and who is responsible for the
26 prevention and detection of crime and the enforcement of the
27 criminal laws of this state and all individuals, as determined
28 by the Iowa law enforcement academy council, who by the nature
29 of their duties may be required to perform the duties of a
30 peace officer.

31 h. Create a pathway for the implementation of a safe harbor
32 law that prohibits the prosecution of minor victims of human
33 trafficking, and directs minor victims of human trafficking to
34 rehabilitative services.

35 i. Investigate and identify potential routes to eliminate

1 human trafficking of minors in the state.

2 *j.* Report on findings and make recommendations in the report
3 submitted by the office to combat human trafficking to the
4 general assembly under subsection 5.

5 2. The task force shall consist of the following members:

6 *a.* The commissioner or the commissioner's designee.

7 *b.* The coordinator of the office to combat human
8 trafficking.

9 *c.* The director of the law enforcement academy or the
10 director's designee.

11 *d.* The attorney general or the attorney general's designee.

12 *e.* The director of health and human services or the
13 director's designee.

14 *f.* Two judges, each from a different juvenile court in this
15 state.

16 *g.* The following members who shall be appointed by the
17 governor:

18 (1) The chief of police or head law enforcement official of
19 a city in this state with a population of two hundred thousand
20 or more as determined by the most recent population estimates
21 issued by the United States bureau of census.

22 (2) The chief of police or head law enforcement official of
23 a city in this state with a population of less than two hundred
24 thousand as determined by the most recent population estimates
25 issued by the United States bureau of census.

26 (3) A county sheriff.

27 (4) Two county attorneys who serve on child protection
28 assistance teams under section 915.35, subsection 4, paragraph
29 "a".

30 (5) Three members of the multidisciplinary team created by
31 the department of health and human services for child abuse
32 investigations.

33 (6) Six members of the general public who are former human
34 trafficking victims.

35 3. *a.* The members of the task force appointed by the

1 governor shall serve six-year terms, except that of the members
2 first appointed, four shall serve an initial two-year term,
3 four shall serve an initial four-year term, and six shall serve
4 an initial six-year term. Thereafter, all other appointed
5 members shall serve a six-year term.

6 *b.* The governor shall appoint a new member to fill a vacancy
7 that occurs before the end of the term of a member appointed by
8 the governor, and the newly appointed member shall serve for
9 the remaining period of the term.

10 *c.* A member of the task force may be appointed to serve more
11 than one term.

12 *d.* A member of the task force shall not continue to serve
13 on the task force beyond the date at which the member no longer
14 holds the office, employment, or status by which the member had
15 been eligible to serve on the task force.

16 *e.* A member of the task force appointed by the governor
17 may be removed from the task force for being absent from three
18 regularly scheduled meetings of the task force during any
19 six-month period.

20 *f.* Eleven members of the task force shall constitute a
21 quorum and the task force shall have the power to act by a
22 majority of the members present at any meeting at which a
23 quorum is present.

24 4. The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall
25 serve as the chairperson of the task force.

26 5. The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall
27 provide the findings and recommendations of the task force
28 to the coordinator of the office to combat human trafficking
29 for inclusion in the annual report submitted by the office to
30 the general assembly pursuant to section 80.45, subsection 3,
31 paragraph "h".

32 EXPLANATION

33 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
34 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

35 This bill directs the commissioner of public safety to

1 establish a human trafficking task force to investigate human
2 trafficking (trafficking) of minors in the state, identify
3 services available for minor victims of trafficking, identify
4 barriers that prevent minor victims of trafficking from
5 seeking legal assistance or medical attention, research and
6 recommend a model of rehabilitative services for minor victims
7 of trafficking, create a procedure to be followed by all law
8 enforcement officers statewide if a law enforcement officer
9 encounters a minor who may be a victim of trafficking, and
10 create a pathway for the implementation of a safe harbor law
11 that prohibits the prosecution of minor victims of trafficking
12 and directs minor victims of trafficking to rehabilitative
13 services. The members of the task force are specified in
14 the bill. The bill requires the commissioner to provide
15 the findings and recommendations of the task force to the
16 coordinator of the office to combat human trafficking for
17 inclusion in the annual report submitted to the general
18 assembly.