

**House File 285 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 285  
BY SEXTON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to prostitution involving a victim of human  
2 trafficking, and providing penalties.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 692A.102, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code  
2 2025, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

3 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (45) Prostitution in violation of section  
4 725.1, subsection 2, paragraph "c".

5 Sec. 2. Section 725.1, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2025,  
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 a. Except as provided in ~~paragraph "b"~~ paragraphs "b" and  
8 "c", a person who purchases or offers to purchase another  
9 person's services as a partner in a sex act commits an aggravated  
10 misdemeanor.

11 Sec. 3. Section 725.1, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended by  
12 adding the following new paragraph:

13 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. A person who purchases or offers to  
14 purchase services as a partner in a sex act from a person who  
15 is a victim of human trafficking, as defined in section 710A.1,  
16 commits a class "C" felony. The person's ignorance of the  
17 other person's status as a victim of human trafficking is not  
18 a defense to a violation of this paragraph. Notwithstanding  
19 section 902.9, subsection 1, paragraph "d", a person convicted  
20 under this paragraph shall be sentenced to a fine of fifty  
21 thousand dollars.

22 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. **802.2H Prostitution.**

23 An information or indictment for prostitution, in violation of  
24 section 725.1, subsection 2, paragraph "c", shall be found within  
25 ten years after the commission of the offense.

26 Sec. 5. Section 902.12, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended  
27 by adding the following new paragraph:

28 NEW PARAGRAPH. h. Prostitution in violation of section  
29 725.1, subsection 2, paragraph "c".

30 EXPLANATION

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

33 This bill relates to prostitution involving a victim of human  
34 trafficking.

35 The bill provides that a person who purchases or offers to

1 purchase services as a partner in a sex act from a person who  
2 is a victim of human trafficking commits a class "C" felony.  
3 Ignorance of the other person's status as a victim of human  
4 trafficking is not a defense to a violation. The bill provides  
5 that notwithstanding Code section 902.9(1)(d), a person convicted  
6 under the bill shall be sentenced to a fine of \$50,000.

7 A person convicted of violating the bill must register as a  
8 tier III sex offender.

9 The bill requires an information or indictment for  
10 prostitution, in violation of Code section 725.1(2)(c), to be  
11 found within 10 years after the commission of the offense.

12 The bill provides that a person serving a sentence for a  
13 violation of the bill shall be denied parole or work release  
14 unless the person has served at least seven-tenths of the maximum  
15 term of the person's sentence.

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