

Human Trafficking, Omnibus Bill House File 1036

Last Action:

Final Action

May 2, 2026

An Act relating to human trafficking, including screening children, civil statutes of limitations, an annual stakeholder meeting and report, depositions of victims, restitution, restorative facilities and protective services, and investigation and prosecution, and including effective date provisions.

**Fiscal Services Division
Legislative Services Agency**

NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)

Available online at www.legis.iowa.gov/publications/information/appropriationBillAnalysis

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NEW PROGRAMS, SERVICES, OR ACTIVITIES

Requires the Office to Combat Human Trafficking within the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to hold an annual meeting of stakeholders to develop legislative proposals to combat human trafficking. Specifies required participants in the meeting.

Page 2, Line 1

Requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop a plan, in consultation with nonprofit service providers, to increase the availability of restoration facilities and protective services available to juvenile victims of human trafficking.

Page 5, Line 41

STUDIES AND INTENT

Required Report

Requires the DPS to submit an annual report by December 15, 2025, and annually thereafter for five years through December 15, 2030, to the Governor and the General Assembly.

Page 2, Line 1

Requires the HHS to provide a report December 15, 2025 to the Governor and the General Assembly detailing the plan to increase the availability of restoration facilities and protective services available to juvenile victims of human trafficking.

Page 5, Line 41

SIGNIFICANT CODE CHANGES

Defines the term "commercial sexual exploitation" under Iowa Code chapter [232](#) (Juvenile Justice).

Page 3, Line 14

Requires the court or its designee to order every complaint alleging a child has committed a delinquent act to be reviewed using a standardized human trafficking indicator list. Authorizes the court or its designee to order the child subject to the complaint to be screened for commercial sexual exploitation using a standardized, evidence-based, trauma-informed screening tool.

Page 3, Line 21

Requires the HHS to screen for commercial sex exploitation using a standardized, evidence-based, trauma-informed screening tool when the HHS determines a report constitutes a child abuse allegation.

Page 3, Line 33

Changes the time frame to file a complaint pursuant to Iowa Code chapter [216](#), to make a claim pursuant to Iowa Code chapter [669](#), or to otherwise commence an action from one year to five years.

Page 4, Line 9

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HUMAN TRAFFICKING, OMNIBUS BILL

HOUSE FILE 1036

Provides that the time to file an action related to sexual abuse or human trafficking that occurred when the injured person was a minor is extended to 5 years beyond the minor's attainment of 18 years of age.

Page 4, Line 23

Provides that an action for damages for injury suffered as a result of human trafficking that occurred when the injured person was a child, but not discovered until after the injured person is of the age of majority, must be brought within five years from the time of discovery by the injured party of both the injury and the causal relationship between the injury and the sexual abuse or human trafficking.

Page 4, Line 29

Updates the definition of "human trafficking" under Iowa Code chapter [710A](#) (Human Trafficking) to mean recruiting, harboring, transporting, supplying provisions to, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting a person for any of the purposes listed under Iowa Code section [710A.1\(4\)\(a\)](#).

Page 5, Line 3

Provides that if the person who sells or offers for sale the person's services as a partner in a sex act is under the age of 18, the county attorney may elect, in lieu of filing a petition alleging that the person has committed a delinquent act, that the person shall not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for an offense under Iowa Code section [725.1](#) but instead may be taken into temporary custody under Iowa Code section 232.78 or 232.79 or shall be referred to the HHS for the possible filing of a petition alleging that the person is a child in need of assistance.

Page 5, Line 11

Modifies the definitions of "Category 'A' restitution" and "Category 'B' restitution."

Page 5, Line 23

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 9 of the Bill amending Iowa Code section [910.1](#) (Restitution) takes effect July 1, 2026 (FY 2027).

Page 5, Line 57

House File 1036 provides for the following changes to the Code of Iowa.

Page #	Line #	Bill Section	Action	Code Section
2	1	1	Add	80.45.3.i
3	14	2	Add	232.2.7A
3	21	3	Amend	232.28.2
3	33	4	Amend	232.71B.1.a
4	9	5	Amend	614.8.2
4	19	6	Amend	614.8A
5	3	7	Amend	710A.1.4.a
5	11	8	Amend	725.1.1.b
5	23	9	Amend	910.1.1,2

2 1 Section 1. Section 80.45, subsection 3, Code 2025, is
 2 2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:
 2 3 NEW PARAGRAPH i. Hold an annual meeting of stakeholders to
 2 4 develop legislative proposals to combat human trafficking, and
 2 5 submit a report, by December 15, 2025, and annually thereafter
 2 6 for a period of five years ending with the submission of
 2 7 the report in 2030, to the governor and general assembly.
 2 8 Participants shall include the following:
 2 9 (1) A representative of the department of public safety.
 2 10 (2) A representative of the office to combat human
 2 11 trafficking.
 2 12 (3) A representative of the attorney general's office.
 2 13 (4) A representative of the department of health and human
 2 14 services.
 2 15 (5) A representative of juvenile court services.
 2 16 (6) A chief of police or head law enforcement official of a
 2 17 city in this state.
 2 18 (7) A county sheriff.
 3 1 (8) A county attorney who serves on a child protection
 3 2 assistance team under section 915.35, subsection 4, paragraph
 3 3 "a".
 3 4 (9) A public defender or criminal law attorney with
 3 5 experience working on human trafficking cases.
 3 6 (10) A member of the public, or the person's legal
 3 7 representative, who is a former human trafficking victim.
 3 8 (11) A representative from the Iowa network against human
 3 9 trafficking.
 3 10 (12) A representative from a nonprofit organization whose
 3 11 primary focus is services for human trafficking survivors.
 3 12 (13) A representative from state court administration with
 3 13 expertise in child welfare law.

3 14 Sec. 2. Section 232.2, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
 3 15 following new subsection:
 3 16 NEW SUBSECTION 7A. "Commercial sexual exploitation" refers
 3 17 to a range of crimes and activities involving the sexual abuse
 3 18 or exploitation of a child for the financial benefit of any
 3 19 person or in exchange for anything of value including monetary
 3 20 and nonmonetary benefits given or received by any person.

CODE: Requires the Office to Combat Human Trafficking within the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to hold an annual meeting of stakeholders to develop legislative proposals to combat human trafficking. Requires the DPS to submit an annual report by December 15, 2025, and annually thereafter for five years through December 15, 2030, to the Governor and the General Assembly. Requires the participants for the stakeholder meeting include a representative from the following departments or organizations:

- Department of Public Safety.
- Office to Combat Human Trafficking.
- Attorney General's Office.
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
- Juvenile Court Services.
- A Chief of Police or head law enforcement official of a city.
- A County Sheriff.
- A County Attorney who serves on a child protection assistance team.
- A Public Defender or criminal law attorney with experience working on human trafficking cases.
- A public member who is a former human trafficking victim, or the person's legal representative.
- Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking.
- A nonprofit organization with a primary focus on human trafficking survivors.
- State Court Administration with expertise in child welfare law.

CODE: Defines the term "commercial sexual exploitation" under Iowa Code chapter [232](#) (Juvenile Justice).

3 21 Sec. 3. Section 232.28, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended
3 22 to read as follows:

3 23 2. a. The court or its designee shall refer the complaint
3 24 to an intake officer who shall consult with law enforcement
3 25 authorities having knowledge of the facts and conduct a
3 26 preliminary inquiry to determine what action should be taken.
3 27 b. The court or its designee shall order every complaint to
3 28 be reviewed using a standardized human trafficking indicator
3 29 list. The court or its designee may order the child subject to
3 30 the complaint with the presence of an indicator to be screened
3 31 for commercial sexual exploitation using a standardized,
3 32 evidence-based, trauma-informed screening tool.

CODE: Requires the court or its designee to order every complaint alleging a child committed a delinquent act to be reviewed using a standardized human trafficking indicator list. Authorizes the court or its designee to order the child subject to the complaint to be screened for commercial sexual exploitation using a standardized, evidence-based, trauma-informed screening tool.

3 33 Sec. 4. Section 232.71B, subsection 1, paragraph a,
3 34 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as
3 35 follows:

4 1 If the department determines a report constitutes a child
4 2 abuse allegation, the department shall ~~promptly~~ have the child
4 3 subject to the child abuse allegation screened for commercial
4 4 sexual exploitation using a standardized, evidence-based,
4 5 trauma-informed screening tool, and shall commence either a
4 6 child abuse assessment within twenty-four hours of receiving
4 7 the report or a family assessment within seventy-two hours of
4 8 receiving the report.

CODE: Requires the HHS to screen for commercial sex exploitation using a standardized, evidence-based, trauma-informed screening tool when the HHS determines a report constitutes a child abuse allegation.

4 9 Sec. 5. Section 614.8, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended
4 10 to read as follows:

4 11 2. Except as provided in section 614.1, subsection 9, or
4 12 section 614.8A, the times limited for actions in this chapter,
4 13 or chapter 216, 659A, 669, or 670, except those brought for
4 14 penalties and forfeitures, are extended in favor of minors,
4 15 so that they shall have ~~one year~~ five years from and after
4 16 attainment of majority within which to file a complaint
4 17 pursuant to chapter 216, to make a claim pursuant to chapter
4 18 669, or to otherwise commence an action.

CODE: Changes the time frame to file a complaint pursuant to Iowa Code chapter [216](#), to make a claim pursuant to Iowa Code chapter [669](#), or to otherwise commence an action from one year to five years.

4 19 Sec. 6. Section 614.8A, Code 2025, is amended to read as
4 20 follows:

4 21 614.8A—DAMAGES COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION FOR CHILD OR MINOR
4 22 SEXUAL ABUSE OR HUMAN TRAFFICKING — TIME LIMITATION.

4 23 1. Notwithstanding section 614.8, subsection 2, and the
 4 24 times limited for actions in this chapter, the time to file
 4 25 an action related to sexual abuse or human trafficking that
 4 26 occurred when the injured person was a minor is extended to
 4 27 five years beyond the minor's attainment of eighteen years of
 4 28 age.

CODE: Provides that the time to file an action related to sexual abuse or human trafficking that occurred when the injured person was a minor is extended to 5 years beyond the minor's attainment of 18 years of age.

4 29 2.—An In addition to the extension of the time provided in
 4 30 subsection 1, an action for damages for injury suffered as a
 4 31 result of sexual abuse ~~which~~ or human trafficking that occurred
 4 32 when the injured person was a child, but not discovered until
 4 33 after the injured person is of the age of majority, shall
 4 34 be brought within ~~four~~ five years from the time of discovery
 4 35 by the injured party of both the injury and the causal
 5 1 relationship between the injury and the sexual abuse or human
 5 2 trafficking.

CODE: Provides that an action for damages for injury suffered as a result of human trafficking that occurred when the injured person was a child, but not discovered until after the injured person is of the age of majority, must be brought within five years from the time of discovery by the injured party of both the injury and the causal relationship between the injury and the sexual abuse or human trafficking.

5 3 Sec. 7. Section 710A.1, subsection 4, paragraph a,
 5 4 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as
 5 5 follows:
 5 6 "Human trafficking" means ~~participating in a venture to~~
 5 7 ~~recruit, harbor, transport, supply provisions, or obtain~~
 5 8 ~~recruiting, harboring, transporting, supplying provisions to,~~
 5 9 ~~obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting~~ a person for any of the
 5 10 following purposes:

CODE: Updates the definition of "human trafficking" under Iowa Code chapter [710A](#) (Human Trafficking) to mean recruiting, harboring, transporting, supplying provisions to, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting a person for any of the purposes listed under Iowa Code section [710A.1\(4\)\(a\)](#).

5 11 Sec. 8. Section 725.1, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code 2025,
 5 12 is amended to read as follows:

5 13 b. If the person who sells or offers for sale the person's
 5 14 services as a partner in a sex act is under the age of eighteen,
 5 15 the county attorney may elect, in lieu of filing a petition
 5 16 alleging that the person has committed a delinquent act, ~~to~~
 5 17 ~~refer that person that the person shall not be arrested,~~
 5 18 ~~charged, or prosecuted for an offense under this section, but~~
 5 19 ~~instead may be taken into temporary custody under section~~
 5 20 ~~232.78 or 232.79 or shall be referred~~ to the department of
 5 21 health and human services for the possible filing of a petition
 5 22 alleging that the person is a child in need of assistance.

CODE: Provides that if the person who sells or offers for sale the person's services as a partner in a sex act is under the age of 18, the county attorney may elect, in lieu of filing a petition alleging that the person has committed a delinquent act, that the person shall not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for an offense under Iowa Code section [725.1](#) but instead may be taken into temporary custody under Iowa Code section [232.78](#) or [232.79](#) or shall be referred to the HHS for the possible filing of a petition alleging that the person is a child in need of assistance.

5 23 Sec. 9. Section 910.1, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2025, are
 5 24 amended to read as follows:

5 25 1. "Category "A" restitution" means fines, penalties, the
5 26 payment of crime victim compensation program reimbursements,
5 27 and surcharges.

CODE: Modifies the definition of "Category 'A' restitution" to include the payment of crime victim compensation program reimbursements.

5 28 2. "Category "B" restitution" means the contribution of
5 29 funds to a local anticrime organization which that provided
5 30 assistance to law enforcement in an offender's case, the
5 31 payment of crime victim compensation program reimbursements,
5 32 payment of restitution to public agencies pursuant to
5 33 section 321J.2, subsection 13, paragraph "b", court costs,
5 34 court-appointed attorney fees ordered pursuant to section
5 35 815.9, including the expense of a public defender, and payment
5 36 to the medical assistance program pursuant to chapter 249A for
5 37 expenditures paid on behalf of the victim resulting from the
5 38 offender's criminal activities including investigative costs
5 39 incurred by the Medicaid fraud control unit pursuant to section
5 40 249A.50.

CODE: Removes the payment of crime victim compensation program reimbursements from the definition of "Category 'B' restitution."

5 41 Sec. 10. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES —
5 42 RESTORATION FACILITIES. The department of health and human
5 43 services shall develop a plan in consultation with nonprofit
5 44 service providers who provide restoration services to
5 45 victims of human trafficking to increase the availability of
5 46 restoration facilities and protective services available to
5 47 juvenile victims of human trafficking, including juvenile
5 48 victims who are not, at the time of victimization, either
5 49 a child in need of assistance or otherwise involved in
5 50 the juvenile court system. The department shall consider
5 51 developing a network with other states to provide housing
5 52 outside of the state for victims at risk of returning to the
5 53 person involved in the victim's trafficking. The department of
5 54 health and human services shall present a report detailing the
5 55 plan to the governor and the general assembly by December 15,
5 56 2025.

Requires the HHS to develop a plan, in consultation with nonprofit service providers, to increase the availability of restoration facilities and protective services available to juvenile victims of human trafficking. Requires the HHS to consider developing a network with other states to provide housing outside of the State for victims at risk of returning to the person involved in the victim's trafficking. Requires the HHS to provide a report detailing the plan to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 15, 2025.

5 57 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE. The following takes effect July
5 58 1, 2026:
5 59 The section of this Act amending section 910.1.

Provides that Section 9 of the Bill amending Iowa Code section [910.1](#) (Restitution) takes effect July 1, 2026 (FY 2027).