



AB 1227 (Bonta) – Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training Act

(As Amended September 8, 2017)

SUMMARY

AB 1227 requires California public schools to offer education and training on human trafficking identification and prevention in order to avert children from being exploited for labor or sex.

BACKGROUND

Human trafficking is the world's fastest growing criminal enterprise and is an estimated \$150 billion-a-year global industry. Two million children globally and at least 100,000 in the United States are commercially sexually exploited every year. The average age of sex trafficking victims is between 11 to 14 years old. California also has particularly high human trafficking rates compared to the rest of the nation.

THE NEED FOR THE BILL

It is necessary for counties to implement comprehensive prevention education and training procedures in order to reduce incidents of human trafficking. Providing students with awareness and education can minimize the possibility of trafficking as a result of tactics used by traffickers, such as force, fraud or coercion. Training teachers and administrators can help provide the tools necessary to identify when a child is at risk of being trafficked.

SOLUTION

AB 1227:

- Requires school districts to include human trafficking prevention education in grades 7-12 (at least once in middle school and once in high school) as part of comprehensive sexual health education
- Requires continuation training about human trafficking to be conducted periodically for school district personnel
- Includes the county office of education and county sheriff's department in the interagency protocol to be utilized in serving sexually exploited children
- Adds requirements to the Education Code regarding the training of educators and students about human trafficking

Such comprehensive prevention education and training procedures would be designed to:

- Coordinate the efforts of counties, local agencies, and other stakeholders through agreed-upon protocols
- Train county leadership, administrators, and educators to identify children that have been, or may be at risk of being, exploited, and how to proceed when potential victims are identified
- Teach California's school-age population how to avoid becoming victims of exploitation, and help them learn ways to address the problem of exploitation

SUPPORT

3Strands Global Foundation
Alameda County Office of Education
American Academy of Pediatrics, CA
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
Association of California School Administrators
Bridge Network
California Catholic Conference
California District Attorneys Association
California Teachers Association
Children's Advocacy Institute
California School Board Association
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST)
Community Solutions
Court Appointed Special Advocates of Sacramento County
Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives
Freedom House
Hadassah
Junior League of CA
Lawyers Club of San Diego
Love Never Fails
The Lynch Foundation
Polaris
Sorooptimist Sierra Nevada
South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking
Tiffany Y. Gipson – Deputy District Attorney of Alameda
150+ individuals

CONTACT

Viviana Becerra
Legislative Director
Office of Assemblymember Rob Bonta
Email: Viviana.Becerra@asm.ca.gov
Phone: 916-319-2018