SENATE BILL SB-38

Introduced by Senator Shannon Grove (R-12)

An act relating to Anti Sex Trafficking .

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB-38, Shannon Grove (R-12). Anti Sex Trafficking .

Adding harsher punishment for criminals and expanding existing resources

Vote: Majority. Appropriations/fiscal: yes. Local program: yes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025-2026 SIMULATION SESSION

SENATE BILL NO[TA Assigns #]

Introduced by Senator Grove

September 29, 2026

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SENATE BILL NO[TA Assigns #]

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Human Trafficking Prevention and Victim Protection

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB [TA Assigns #], as introduced, Grove. The Human Trafficking Prevention and Survivor Protection Act

The existing California laws establishes criminal penalties for human traffickers and provides harsher penalties for those trafficking minors

This bill would establish additional measures intended to prevent human trafficking, strengthen protection for victims, and improve coordination between state and local agencies that are responsible for investigating and responding to these matters.

This bill would require the Department of Justice and any state or local agencies to develop a statewide human trafficking prevention and education program. This program would provide information regarding the warning signs of human trafficking, methods of reporting suspected trafficking, and available resources for victims and survivors.

This bill would also require law enforcement agencies to provide victims of human trafficking with information on resources such as emergency housing, counseling, medical services, legal assistance, and other survivor support resources.

This bill would need a one time budget of 20million 7 million going to the statewide human trafficking prevention education campaign. 8 million as a grant for survivor services such as emergency housing, counseling, medical services, legal assistance, and victim advocacy. 3 million for Department of Justice administration, training, and coordination. 2 million to data collection, evaluation, and reporting.
any amount of funds to be appropriated for its purposes.
Vote: majority Appropriation: yes Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION 1. This act shall be known as, and may be cited as the Human Trafficking Prevention and Survivor Protection Act

SECTION 2
The Legislator declares all of the following
(a) Human trafficking is a serious crime that exploits vulnerable individuals for financial or personal gain
(b) Children and other vulnerable individuals may be particularly susceptible to exploitation by traffickers
(c) Prevention, early identification, effective law-enforcement, and access to survivors resources are important components of combating human trafficking
(d) Victims and survivors of human trafficking should have access to appropriate services without fear of further exploitation or retaliation

SECTION 3
The Department of Justice shall establish a statewide human trafficking prevention and education program.

The program shall include, but not be limited to information concerning:

1. Common warning, signs of human trafficking
2. Online recruitment and exploitation
3. Methods for reporting suspected trafficking
4. Resources available to victims, and
5. Training and educational materials for schools, community organizations, and other appropriate entities

SECTION 4

Law-enforcement agency responding to a suspected human trafficking offense shall when appropriate and consistent with an ongoing investigation provide the victim with information concerning available service services, including:

(a) Emergency and transitional housing

(b) Medical and mental health services

(c) Legal assistance

(d) Victim advocacy service services

(e) Educational and employment assistance

SECTION 5
The Department of Justice shall coordinate with local law-enforcement agencies, district attorneys county, social services, agencies, nonprofit organizations, and survivor service organizations to improve the identification of trafficking victims in the coordination of services

SECTION 6
Nothing in this action shall be construed to limit the authority of a law-enforcement agency to investigate or prosecute a person suspected of human traffic

SECTION 7
The provisions of this ad shall be implemented to the extent that funding is made available for this purpose

SECTION 8
This bill will take effect January 1st following its enactment