

By Senator Stewart

17-00838B-23

20231546\_\_

1                   A bill to be entitled`  
2           An act relating to human trafficking; amending s.  
3           509.098, F.S.; prohibiting an operator of a public  
4           lodging establishment from offering an hourly rate or  
5           a fraction of an hourly rate, or any combination  
6           thereof, for less than 3 hours for an accommodation;  
7           requiring that such minimum hourly rate be for a  
8           reserved and continuous block of time; revising  
9           applicability; amending s. 787.29, F.S.; requiring the  
10          employer at an athletic venue, an entertainment venue,  
11          or a convention center with a certain capacity to  
12          display a human trafficking public awareness sign in a  
13          conspicuous location that is clearly visible to the  
14          public and employees; defining the term "entertainment  
15          venue"; providing a noncriminal violation; authorizing  
16          sheriffs to identify locations appropriate for the  
17          display of public awareness signs and to display such  
18          signs as they deem appropriate; making technical  
19          changes; amending s. 943.17297, F.S.; increasing the  
20          number of training hours in identifying and  
21          investigating human trafficking which each certified  
22          law enforcement officer must successfully complete  
23          within 1 year after beginning employment; creating s.  
24          1004.343, F.S.; creating the Statewide Data Repository  
25          for Anonymous Human Trafficking Data at the University  
26          of South Florida; providing purposes of the data  
27          repository; specifying duties of the university;  
28          designating required reporting entities; requiring  
29          specified information to be reported; providing

17-00838B-23

20231546\_\_

timeframes for reporting; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 509.098, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

509.098 Prohibition of hourly rates.—

(1) An operator of a public lodging establishment may not offer an hourly rate or a fraction of an hourly rate, or any combination thereof, for less than 3 hours for an accommodation. The minimum hourly rate of time that an operator of a public lodging establishment may offer is 3 hours, and it must be for a reserved and continuous block of time.

(2) This section does not apply to:

(a) An hourly rate charged by an operator of a public lodging establishment as a late checkout fee.

(b) A public lodging establishment within a 1-mile radius of an airport.

Section 2. Section 787.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

787.29 Human trafficking public awareness signs.—

(1) The Department of Transportation shall display a public awareness sign developed under this section ~~subsection (4)~~ in every rest area, turnpike service plaza, weigh station, primary airport, passenger rail station, and welcome center in the state which is open to the public.

(2) Emergency rooms shall display a public awareness sign developed under this section ~~subsection (4)~~ in the emergency rooms at general acute care hospitals.

17-00838B-23

20231546\_\_

59           (3) (a) The employer at each of the following establishments  
60 shall display a public awareness sign developed under this  
61 section ~~subsection (4)~~ in a conspicuous location that is clearly  
62 visible to the public and employees of the establishment:

63           1. (a) A strip club or other adult entertainment  
64 establishment.

65           2. (b) A business or establishment that offers massage or  
66 bodywork services for compensation and that is not owned by a  
67 health care practitioner regulated pursuant to chapter 456 and  
68 defined in s. 456.001.

69           3. An athletic venue, an entertainment venue, or a  
70 convention center capable of accommodating 5,000 or more  
71 persons. As used in this subparagraph, the term "entertainment  
72 venue" means any public facility that offers services or holds  
73 events, performances, or activities for enjoyment or amusement  
74 and is used for commercial or industrial purposes and that does  
75 not include overnight lodging or casinos but may include  
76 performing arts centers, arenas, racetracks, coliseums,  
77 auditoriums, theme or amusement parks, museums, cultural  
78 complexes, or other similar facilities.

79           (b) A county commission may adopt an ordinance to enforce  
80 this subsection. A violation of this subsection is a noncriminal  
81 violation and is punishable only by a fine as provided in s.  
82 775.083.

83           (4) Each sheriff may identify locations appropriate for the  
84 display of a public awareness sign developed under this section  
85 and may display such signs as he or she deems appropriate.

86           (5) The required public awareness sign must be at least 8.5  
87 inches by 11 inches in size, must be printed in at least a 16-

17-00838B-23

20231546\_\_

88 point type, and must state substantially the following in  
89 English and Spanish:

90  
91 "If you or someone you know is being forced to engage  
92 in an activity and cannot leave—whether it is  
93 prostitution, housework, farm work, factory work,  
94 retail work, restaurant work, or any other activity—  
95 call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at  
96 1-888-373-7888 or text INFO or HELP to 233-733 to  
97 access help and services. Victims of slavery and human  
98 trafficking are protected under United States and  
99 Florida law."

100  
101 ~~(5) The county commission may adopt an ordinance to enforce~~  
102 ~~subsection (3). A violation of subsection (3) is a noncriminal~~  
103 ~~violation and punishable by a fine only as provided in s.~~  
104 ~~775.083.~~

105 Section 3. Section 943.17297, Florida Statutes, is amended  
106 to read:

107 943.17297 Continuing employment training in identifying and  
108 investigating human trafficking.—Within 1 year after beginning  
109 employment, each certified law enforcement officer must  
110 successfully complete 8 ~~4~~ hours of training in identifying and  
111 investigating human trafficking. Completion of the training  
112 component may count toward the 40 hours of instruction for  
113 continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer  
114 required under s. 943.135. This training component must be  
115 completed by current law enforcement officers by July 1, 2022.  
116 The training must be developed by the commission in consultation

17-00838B-23

20231546\_\_

117 with the Department of Legal Affairs and the Statewide Council  
118 on Human Trafficking. If an officer fails to complete the  
119 required training, his or her certification must be placed on  
120 inactive status until the employing agency notifies the  
121 commission that the officer has completed the training.

122 Section 4. Section 1004.343, Florida Statutes, is created  
123 to read:

124 1004.343 Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human  
125 Trafficking Data.—

126 (1) There is created the Statewide Data Repository for  
127 Anonymous Human Trafficking Data. The repository shall be housed  
128 in and operated by the University of South Florida Trafficking  
129 in Persons - Risk to Resilience Lab.

130 (a) The Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human  
131 Trafficking Data shall do all of the following:

132 1. Collect and analyze anonymous human trafficking data to  
133 identify trends in human trafficking in this state over time.

134 2. Evaluate the effectiveness of various state-funded  
135 initiatives to combat human trafficking to enable the state to  
136 make evidence-based decisions in funding future initiatives.

137 3. Disseminate relevant data to law enforcement agencies,  
138 state agencies, and other entities to assist in combating human  
139 trafficking and apprehending and prosecuting persons responsible  
140 for conducting human trafficking.

141 4. Evaluate the effectiveness of interventions and services  
142 provided to assist human trafficking victims.

143 (b) The University of South Florida Trafficking in Persons  
144 - Risk to Resilience Lab shall do all of the following:

145 1. Design, operate, maintain, and protect the integrity of

17-00838B-23

20231546\_\_

146 the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human Trafficking  
147 Data.

148 2. Design, in consultation with the Department of Law  
149 Enforcement and other law enforcement partners, and launch a  
150 user-friendly system for efficiently reporting anonymous human  
151 trafficking data to the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous  
152 Human Trafficking Data at no additional cost to reporting  
153 entities.

154 3. Analyze anonymous human trafficking data to identify  
155 initiatives and interventions that are effective in combating  
156 human trafficking, apprehending and prosecuting persons  
157 responsible for conducting human trafficking, and assisting  
158 human trafficking victims.

159 4. Work with law enforcement agencies and state agencies to  
160 report data on human trafficking investigations and prosecutions  
161 which can aid such agencies in combating human trafficking and  
162 apprehending and prosecuting persons responsible for conducting  
163 human trafficking.

164 (2) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the following  
165 agencies and entities shall report anonymous human trafficking  
166 data required under this section:

167 1. Law enforcement agencies operating with state or local  
168 government tax proceeds, including, but not limited to,  
169 municipal police departments, county sheriffs, and state  
170 attorneys.

171 2. The Department of Law Enforcement and any other state  
172 agency that holds data related to human trafficking.

173 3. Service providers and other nongovernmental  
174 organizations that serve human trafficking victims and receive

17-00838B-23

20231546\_\_

175 state or federal funding for such purpose.

176 (b) A required reporting entity that submits the data  
177 required under subsection (3) to the Department of Law  
178 Enforcement's Uniform Crime Report system or Florida Incident-  
179 Based Reporting System may, but is not required to, submit any  
180 additional data to the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous  
181 Human Trafficking Data. The Department of Law Enforcement shall  
182 report to the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human  
183 Trafficking Data, at least quarterly, the data required under  
184 subsection (3) which has been reported by a required reporting  
185 entity to the department.

186 (3) A required reporting entity shall submit the following  
187 data to the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human  
188 Trafficking Data unless such entity is exempt from the reporting  
189 requirement under paragraph (2) (b):

190 (a) The alleged human trafficking offense that was  
191 investigated or prosecuted and a description of the alleged  
192 prohibited conduct.

193 (b) The age, gender, and race or ethnicity of each suspect  
194 or defendant and victim.

195 (c) The date, time, and location of the alleged offense.

196 (d) The type of human trafficking involved, whether for  
197 labor or services or commercial sexual activity.

198 (e) Any other alleged offense related to the human  
199 trafficking offense that was investigated or prosecuted.

200 (f) Information regarding any victim services organization  
201 or related program to which the victim was referred, if  
202 available.

203 (g) The disposition of the investigation or prosecution,

17-00838B-23

20231546\_\_

204 regardless of the manner of disposition.

205 (4) (a) A required reporting entity located in a county with  
206 a population of more than 500,000 must begin reporting data  
207 required by this section to the Statewide Data Repository for  
208 Anonymous Human Trafficking Data, or to the Department of Law  
209 Enforcement as authorized under paragraph (2) (b), on or before  
210 July 1, 2024, and at least quarterly each year thereafter.

211 (b) A required reporting entity located in a county with a  
212 population of 500,000 or less must begin reporting data required  
213 by this section to the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous  
214 Human Trafficking Data, or to the Department of Law Enforcement  
215 as authorized under paragraph (2) (b), on or before July 1, 2025,  
216 and at least biannually each year thereafter.

217 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.