

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to sexual exploitation and human  
3           trafficking; amending s. 787.29, F.S.; requiring the  
4           Department of Children and Families to develop age-  
5           appropriate public awareness signs for display in  
6           specified locations that provide shelter and care for  
7           dependent children; providing sign requirements;  
8           making technical changes; creating s. 402.88, F.S.;  
9           defining terms; requiring the Department of Children  
10          and Families to develop a process to certify adult  
11          safe houses that provide housing and care to adult  
12          survivors of human trafficking; providing  
13          certification requirements; authorizing rulemaking;  
14          requiring the department to inspect adult safe houses  
15          before certification and annually thereafter;  
16          requiring the department to ensure the staff of each  
17          adult safe house completes specified intensive  
18          training; providing for department actions for  
19          noncompliance; amending s. 409.1678, F.S.; providing  
20          security requirements for certain group homes and safe  
21          houses; creating s. 409.16781, F.S.; requiring the  
22          Department of Children and Families to develop age-  
23          appropriate educational programming for children in  
24          certain facilities concerning human trafficking;  
25          providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (3) and (5) of section 787.29, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (4) of that section is republished, to read:

787.29 Human trafficking public awareness signs.—

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

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

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

(b) In addition to enforcement by the Department of Children and Families, the county commission may adopt an ordinance to enforce this subsection. A violation of this subsection is a noncriminal violation and punishable by a fine only as provided in s. 775.083.

(4) The required public awareness sign must be at least 8.5 inches by 11 inches in size, must be printed in at least a 16-point type, and must state substantially the following in

51 English and Spanish:

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53 "If you or someone you know is being forced to engage  
54 in an activity and cannot leave—whether it is  
55 prostitution, housework, farm work, factory work,  
56 retail work, restaurant work, or any other activity—  
57 call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at  
58 1-888-373-7888 or text INFO or HELP to 233-733 to  
59 access help and services. Victims of slavery and human  
60 trafficking are protected under United States and  
61 Florida law."

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63 (5) In conjunction with its development of educational  
64 programming on human trafficking under s. 409.16781, the  
65 Department of Children and Families shall develop age-  
66 appropriate public awareness signs on that topic for display in  
67 each emergency shelter, runaway shelter, group home, agency-  
68 operated group treatment home, nonpsychiatric residential group  
69 care facility, psychiatric residential treatment facility, safe  
70 house as defined in s. 409.1678(1), and other appropriate  
71 facilities that provide shelter and care for dependent children.  
72 The department shall have the signs conspicuously placed in each  
73 such location to warn youth of the dangers of human trafficking  
74 and to encourage the reporting of individuals observed  
75 attempting to engage in human trafficking activity. The signs

76 must contain the telephone number for either the National Human  
 77 Trafficking Resource Center or such other number that the  
 78 Department of Law Enforcement uses to detect and stop human  
 79 trafficking ~~The county commission may adopt an ordinance to~~  
 80 ~~enforce subsection (3). A violation of subsection (3) is a~~  
 81 ~~noncriminal violation and punishable by a fine only as provided~~  
 82 ~~in s. 775.083.~~

83 Section 2. Section 402.88, Florida Statutes, is created to  
 84 read:

85 402.88 Adult safe houses for adults who have been sexually  
 86 exploited or trafficked.-

87 (1) As used in this section the term:

88 (a) "Adult safe house" means a group residential facility  
 89 certified by the department under this section to care for  
 90 adults who have been sexually exploited or trafficked.

91 (b) "Department" means the Department of Children and  
 92 Families.

93 (2) The department shall establish a process to certify  
 94 adult safe houses that provide housing and care to adult  
 95 survivors of human trafficking as defined in s. 787.06. The  
 96 adult safe houses certified under this section must:

97 (a) Provide a facility which will serve as an adult safe  
 98 house to receive and house persons who are victims of human  
 99 trafficking. For the purpose of this section, minor children and  
 100 other dependents of a victim, when such dependents are partly or

101 wholly dependent on the victim for support or services, may be  
102 sheltered with the victim in an adult safe house.

103 (b) Receive the annual written endorsement of local law  
104 enforcement agencies.

105 (c) Provide minimum services that include, but are not  
106 limited to, information and referral services, licensed  
107 counseling and case management services, substance abuse  
108 screening and, when necessary, access or referral to treatment,  
109 temporary emergency shelter for more than 24 hours, a 24-hour  
110 hotline, nonresidential outreach services, training for law  
111 enforcement personnel, assessment and appropriate referral of  
112 resident children, and educational services for community  
113 awareness relative to the incidence of human trafficking, the  
114 prevention of such crimes, and the services available for  
115 persons subject to human trafficking. If a 24-hour hotline,  
116 professional training, or community education is already  
117 provided by an adult safe house within its designated service  
118 area, the department may exempt such certification requirements  
119 for a new center serving the same service area to avoid  
120 duplication of services.

121 (d) Participate in the provision of orientation and  
122 training programs developed for law enforcement officers, social  
123 workers, and other professionals and paraprofessionals who work  
124 with human trafficking victims to better enable such persons to  
125 deal effectively with incidents of human trafficking.

126        (e) Provide a safe, therapeutic environment tailored to  
127 the needs of commercially sexually exploited or trafficked  
128 adults who have endured significant trauma. Adult safe houses  
129 shall use a model of treatment that includes strength-based and  
130 trauma-informed approaches.

131        (f) File with the department a list of the names of the  
132 human trafficking advocates who are employed or who volunteer at  
133 the adult safe house who may claim a privilege under s. 90.5037  
134 to refuse to disclose a confidential communication between a  
135 victim of human trafficking and the advocate regarding the human  
136 trafficking inflicted upon the victim. The list must include the  
137 title of the position held by the advocate whose name is listed  
138 and a description of the duties of that position. An adult safe  
139 house shall file amendments to this list as necessary.

140        (g) Comply with rules adopted under this section.

141        (3) The department may adopt rules to implement this  
142 section.

143        (4) The department shall inspect adult safe houses before  
144 certification and annually thereafter to ensure compliance with  
145 the requirements of this section.

146        (5) The department shall ensure the staff of each adult  
147 safe house completes intensive training that, at a minimum,  
148 includes the needs of victims of commercial sexual exploitation,  
149 the effects of trauma and sexual exploitation, and how to  
150 address victims' needs using strength-based and trauma-informed

151 approaches. The department shall specify by rule the contents of  
 152 this training and may develop or contract for a standard  
 153 curriculum.

154 (6) If the department finds that there is failure by an  
 155 adult safe house to comply with the requirements established, or  
 156 rules adopted, under this section, the department may deny,  
 157 suspend, or revoke the certification of the adult safe house.

158 Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section  
 159 409.1678, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

160 409.1678 Specialized residential options for children who  
 161 are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.-

162 (2) CERTIFICATION OF SAFE HOUSES AND SAFE FOSTER HOMES.-

163 (c) To be certified, a safe house must hold a license as a  
 164 residential child-caring agency, as defined in s. 409.175, and a  
 165 safe foster home must hold a license as a family foster home, as  
 166 defined in s. 409.175. A safe house or safe foster home must  
 167 also:

168 1. Use strength-based and trauma-informed approaches to  
 169 care, to the extent possible and appropriate.

170 2. Serve exclusively one sex.

171 3. Group child victims of commercial sexual exploitation  
 172 by age or maturity level.

173 4. Care for child victims of commercial sexual  
 174 exploitation in a manner that separates those children from  
 175 children with other needs. Safe houses and safe foster homes may

176 care for other populations if the children who have not  
177 experienced commercial sexual exploitation do not interact with  
178 children who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation.

179 5. Have awake staff members on duty 24 hours a day, if a  
180 safe house.

181 6. Provide appropriate security through facility design,  
182 hardware, technology, staffing, and siting, including, but not  
183 limited to, external video monitoring or door exit alarms, a  
184 high staff-to-client ratio, or being situated in a remote  
185 location that is isolated from major transportation centers and  
186 common trafficking areas. Appropriate security must include at  
187 least one individual on staff that has law enforcement,  
188 investigative, or other similar training, as established by rule  
189 by the department, for the detection of possible trafficking  
190 activity around a facility, to be an emergency responder to look  
191 for absent or missing children, and for coordination with law  
192 enforcement.

193 7. Meet other criteria established by department rule,  
194 which may include, but are not limited to, personnel  
195 qualifications, staffing ratios, and types of services offered.

196 Section 4. Section 409.16781, Florida Statutes, is created  
197 to read:

198 409.16781 Educating children in facilities regarding human  
199 trafficking; age-appropriate educational programming.-

200 (1) As used in this section the term "facility" means



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201 either a licensed residential facility, as defined in s.  
202 393.063, or a safe house or safe foster home as defined in s.  
203 409.1678(1).

204 (2) The department shall develop age-appropriate  
205 educational programming for facilities educating children  
206 regarding the signs and dangers of human trafficking and how to  
207 report human trafficking.

208 (3) Each facility with teenage children, at least  
209 annually, shall use the department's educational programming  
210 regarding human trafficking.

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