

By Senator Stewart

17-00331A-24

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to human trafficking; amending s.  
3       787.29, F.S.; requiring the employer at an athletic  
4       venue, an entertainment venue, or a convention center  
5       with a certain capacity to display a human trafficking  
6       public awareness sign in a conspicuous location that  
7       is clearly visible to the public and employees;  
8       defining the term "entertainment venue"; authorizing  
9       sheriffs to identify locations within specified  
10      establishments which are appropriate for the display  
11      of public awareness signs and to post such signs as  
12      they deem appropriate; making technical changes;  
13      amending s. 943.17297, F.S.; increasing the number of  
14      training hours in identifying and investigating human  
15      trafficking which each certified law enforcement  
16      officer must successfully complete as part of  
17      specified training; providing an effective date.

18  
19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

20  
21       Section 1. Section 787.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
22       read:

23       787.29 Human trafficking public awareness signs.—

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

29       (2) Emergency rooms shall display a public awareness sign

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30 developed under this section ~~subsection (4)~~ in the emergency  
31 rooms at general acute care hospitals.

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

36 1. A strip club or other adult entertainment establishment.

37 2. A business or establishment that offers massage or  
38 bodywork services for compensation and that is not owned by a  
39 health care practitioner regulated pursuant to chapter 456 and  
40 defined in s. 456.001.

41 3. An athletic venue, an entertainment venue, or a  
42 convention center, any of which is capable of accommodating  
43 5,000 or more persons. As used in this subparagraph, the term  
44 "entertainment venue" means any public facility that offers  
45 services or holds events, performances, or activities for  
46 enjoyment or amusement and is used for commercial or industrial  
47 purposes. The term does not include overnight lodging or casinos  
48 but may include performing arts centers, arenas, racetracks,  
49 coliseums, auditoriums, theme or amusement parks, museums,  
50 cultural complexes, or other similar facilities.

51 (b) The county commission may adopt an ordinance to enforce  
52 this subsection. A violation of this subsection is a noncriminal  
53 violation, and punishable by a fine only as provided in s.  
54 775.083.

55 (4) Each sheriff may identify locations within  
56 establishments identified in subsection (3) appropriate for the  
57 display of a public awareness sign developed under this section  
58 and may post such signs as he or she deems appropriate at such

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59 establishments which are within his or her jurisdiction.

60 (5) The required public awareness sign must be at least 8.5  
61 inches by 11 inches in size, must be printed in at least a 16-  
62 point type, and must state substantially the following in  
63 English and Spanish:

64  
65 "If you or someone you know is being forced to engage  
66 in an activity and cannot leave—whether it is  
67 prostitution, housework, farm work, factory work,  
68 retail work, restaurant work, or any other activity—  
69 call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at  
70 1-888-373-7888 or text INFO or HELP to 233-733 to  
71 access help and services. Victims of slavery and human  
72 trafficking are protected under United States and  
73 Florida law."

74 Section 2. Section 943.17297, Florida Statutes, is amended  
75 to read:

76 943.17297 Training in identifying and investigating human  
77 trafficking.—Each certified law enforcement officer must  
78 successfully complete 8 4 hours of training in identifying and  
79 investigating human trafficking as part of the basic recruit  
80 training of the officer required in s. 943.13(9) or additional  
81 training required in s. 943.131(4). The training must be  
82 developed by the commission in consultation with the Department  
83 of Legal Affairs and the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking.

84 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.