

Committee Substitute for  
Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 168

An act relating to human trafficking; creating within the Department of Children and Family Services the Florida Statewide Task Force on Human Trafficking; prescribing the membership of the task force; providing for members of the task force to serve without compensation or reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses; providing specific responsibilities and duties of the task force and its members; requiring that the task force prepare a final report by a specified date; providing duties of the Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights; abolishing the task force on a specified date; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Florida Statewide Task Force on Human Trafficking.—

(1) The Legislature declares that the purpose of this act is to create a public and private task force to examine and analyze the problem of human trafficking and to plan for a coordinated, humane response for victims of human trafficking through a review of existing programs, a clarification of existing options for such victims, and revised policy efforts to coordinate governmental and private efforts.

(2)(a) There is created within the Department of Children and Family Services the Florida Statewide Task Force on Human Trafficking, a task force as defined in s. 20.03, Florida Statutes. The task force is created for the express purpose of examining the problem of human trafficking and recommending strategies and actions for reducing or eliminating the unlawful trafficking of men, women, and children into this state.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following governmental members, or a designee:

1. The executive director of the Department of Law Enforcement, who shall serve as co-chair.

2. The Secretary of Children and Family Services, who shall serve as co-chair.

3. The Chief Financial Officer.

4. The Commissioner of Agriculture.

5. The Attorney General.

6. The State Surgeon General.

7. The statewide prosecutor.

8. The executive director of the Florida Commission on Human Relations.

9. The Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation.

10. A sheriff.

11. A police chief.

(c) The task force shall consist of the following nongovernmental members, or a designee:

1. The executive director of the Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights.

2. The executive director of the Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center.

3. The secretary of the Coalition of Immokolee Workers.

4. The executive director of the Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking.

5. The executive director of the Florida Freedom Partnership.

6. The executive director of Gulf Coast Legal Services.

7. The executive director of the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence.

8. The executive director of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

(d) The Governor shall appoint the sheriff and police chief by July 1, 2009. The Governor may appoint ex officio members at any time.

(e) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation or reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses.

(3)(a) The task force shall receive the Statewide Strategic Plan currently being formulated by the Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. The strategic plan shall be presented to the task force at the first meeting of the task force no later than November 1, 2009.

(b) The work of the task force is to receive, revise, and propose a plan of implementation of the strategic plan no later than October 1, 2010.

(4) The Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights shall:

(a) Collect and organize data concerning the nature and extent of trafficking of persons in Florida and measure and evaluate the progress in the state in preventing trafficking, protecting and providing assistance to victims of trafficking, and prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking activities;

(b) Identify available federal, state, and local programs in this state which provide services to victims of trafficking, including, but not limited to,

health care and human services, housing services, education services, legal assistance, job training or preparation classes, interpreting services, English as a Second Language classes, and victim's compensation;

(c) Evaluate approaches to increase public awareness of trafficking, particularly the risks of becoming a trafficking victim; the common recruitment techniques; the use of debt bondage, blackmail, forced labor and services, prostitution, and other coercive tactics; the crime victims' rights; and the reporting of recruitment activities involved in trafficking;

(d) Analyze the current state, local, and federal criminal statutes for their adequacy in addressing trafficking and, if the analysis determines that those statutes are inadequate, recommend revisions to those statutes or the enactment of new statutes that specifically define and address trafficking; and

(e) Consult with governmental and nongovernmental organizations, especially those specializing in stopping trafficking or representing diverse communities disproportionately affected by trafficking, in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of trafficking, and prosecute traffickers.

(5) The task force is abolished July 1, 2011.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 1, 2009.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 1, 2009.