

Landmark Washington State Accomplishments to Prevent Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Minors (28 bills in one decade)

2002

- [HB 2381](#) created the Task Force Against Trafficking of Persons—the first of its kind in the nation—directed to measure and evaluate the state's progress in trafficking prevention activities, identify available programs providing services to victims of trafficking, and recommend methods to provide a coordinated system of support and assistance to victims of trafficking (Veloria). *Not codified; Report issued in 2004 (see below).*
- [SB 6412](#), the International Matchmaking Organization Act—also the first of its kind in the nation—established protections for prospective foreign spouses of Washington residents who go through online international marriage brokers by requiring the brokers to notify recruits in their native language that background check and marital history information is available for prospective spouses who are Washington residents (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 19.220.010.*
- The Washington State Task Force Against the Trafficking of Persons issued its first report and recommendations (<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Documents/OCVA-HT-2002-HT-Report.pdf>).

2003

- [HB 1175](#) created two human trafficking crimes, both class A felonies, and expanded the definition of criminal profiteering to include the crime of trafficking—making Washington the first state in the nation to criminalize trafficking and specify criminal and civil penalties (Veloria). *RCW 9A.40.100.*
- [HB 1826](#) increased protections for prospective foreign spouses by also making personal history information available to them, including spousal abuse and founded child abuse (Veloria). *RCW 19.220.010.*
- The Federal International Marriage Brokers Regulations Act is sponsored by U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell and U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen, modeled after the 2002 International Matchmaking Organization Act.

2004

- The Task Force released its second report (<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Documents/OCVA-HT-2004-Task-Force-Report.pdf>).

2005

- [SB 5127](#) created requirements for state agencies to develop written protocols for the delivery of services to victims of human trafficking (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 7.68.360*
- State funding was provided for legal aid to undocumented immigrants who are victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, or human trafficking.
- The Task Force released its third report (<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Documents/OCVA-HT-2005-Task-Force-Report.pdf>).

2006

- [SB 6731](#) prohibited sex tourism—making WA the second state in the nation to do so (Fraser). *RCW 9A.88.085.*
- Task Force funding was renewed and the task force was directed to create a Comprehensive Response to Human Trafficking—a coordinated system containing seven components, including prevention, victim identification and victim services.

- The Federal International Marriage Brokers Regulations Act was signed into law as part of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005. *Pub. L. No. 109-162, 119 Stat. 2960 (2006)*.

2007-2008

- [SB 6339](#) added victims of human trafficking to the list of persons eligible for the state's address confidentiality program (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 40.24.010*.
- [SB 5718](#) created four new crimes relating to child sexual exploitation: commercial sexual abuse of a minor (CSAM) that replaced the crime of patronizing a juvenile prostitute, promoting CSAM, promoting travel for CSAM, and permitting CSAM. It also added an additional one-year penalty to the sentence for a conviction of the most serious crimes of child sex abuse if the offender paid to engage in the abuse (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 9.68A.100 through .103*.
- The Task Force released its fourth report (<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Documents/OCVA-HT-2008-HT-Report.pdf>).

2009

- [SB 5850](#)—the first legislation of its kind in the nation—required international labor recruiters and domestic employers of foreign workers to disclose federal and state labor laws to employees and required health care professionals be provided with information to help identify human trafficking victims (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 19.320.020*.
- [HB 1505](#) allowed prosecutors to divert cases in which a minor is alleged to have committed the offense of prostitution, if the juvenile agrees to participate in a program that provides wraparound services, including mental health counseling (Dickerson). *RCW 13.40.213*.

2010

- [SB 6332](#), built on SB 5850 enacted in 2009, added nonimmigrant workers to the list of employees who must be provided with federal and state labor laws, and established civil penalties for labor recruiters and employers who fail to do so (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 19.320.010*.
- [SB 6476](#) strengthened penalties for the crime of commercial sexual abuse of a minor and required development of training for law enforcement officers (Stevens). *RCW 9.68A.100, .101, and .105, and 9A.88.140*.
- [SB 6330](#) allowed informational posters on domestic trafficking, including trafficking of minors and a "1-800" number, to be placed at rest stops throughout the state which could be very helpful for individuals being taken to international events, such as the Winter Olympics which were held in British Columbia (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 47.38.080*.

2011

- [SB 5482](#) authorized local governments to use affordable housing funds to provide housing assistance to victims of human trafficking and their families (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 36.22.178, .179, and .1791*.
- [HB 1874](#) authorized law enforcement officers to conduct surveillance operations on suspected human-trafficking and commercial sexual abuse activities with the consent of the victim. It also authorized prosecutors to request assistance from minors in the undercover surveillance of telephone communications in trafficking investigations without putting youth in danger (Dickerson). *RCW 9.73.210 and .230*.
- [SB 5546](#) amended the crime of human trafficking to include the illegal harvesting or sale of human organs and broadened the scope of the crimes to hold criminals accountable when caught transporting a person despite not knowing whether the person would eventually be forced into prostitution or manual labor (Kohl-Welles). *RCW 9A.40.100 and .010, 9.95.062, and 10.64.025*.

2012

- [SB 6251](#) created a new crime, making it illegal to knowingly publish an escort ad on-line or in print that involves a minor (Kohl-Welles). *Chapter 9.68A RCW*.
- [SB 6252](#) added the crimes of commercial sexual abuse of a minor and promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor to the list of offenses that may constitute a pattern of criminal profiteering activity (Kline). *RCW 9A.82.010 and .100*.
- [SB 6253](#) authorized law enforcement agencies to seize any proceeds or property that facilitate the crimes of commercial sexual abuse of a minor (Eide). *Chapter 9A.88 RCW*.
- [SB 6254](#) criminalized the act of compelling a person with a disability that renders the person incapable of consent to engage in an act of prostitution (Delvin). *RCW 9A.88.070*.
- [SB 6256](#) added to the list of gang-related crimes the promotion of sexual abuse of a minor that provides the gang with an advantage, control, or dominance over a market sector (Conway). *RCW 9.94A.030*.
- [SB 6257](#) defined sexually explicit acts with regard to sex trafficking and promoting the sexual abuse of a minor (Roach). *RCW 9.68A.101 and 9A.40.100*.
- [SB 6258](#) criminalized ordering, luring, or attempting to lure a minor or a person with a cognitive disability into any transportation terminal or into a motor vehicle (Stevens). *RCW 9A.40.090*.
- [SB 6103](#) prohibited anyone from practicing reflexology or representing himself or herself as a reflexologist unless certified as a reflexologist or licensed by the health department as a massage practitioner (Keiser). *Chapter 18.108 RCW*.
- [SB 6255](#) allowed minors who were convicted of prostitution resulting from being trafficked by force, fraud, or coercion to request the court to vacate the conviction (Fraser). *RCW 9.96.060 and Chapter 9A.88 RCW*.
- [HB 1983](#) increased the fees imposed against individuals convicted of promoting or patronizing prostitution (Parker). *RCW 9A.40.100, 9A.44.128, 9A.88.120, 9.68A.105, 3.50.100, 3.62.020, 3.62.040, 10.82.070, and 35.20.220*.
- [HB 2692](#) increased the additional fine a person must pay when convicted of patronizing a prostitute and requires those fees be used to pay for increased enforcement and prevention programs (Orwall). *RCW 9A.88.130, 3.50.100, 3.62.020, 3.62.040, 10.82.070, and 35.20.220*.
- [HB 2177](#) prohibited the duplication or distribution of child pornography as part of the discovery process in a criminal prosecution, and instead required the material to be made reasonably available to the prosecutor, defense attorney, and expert witnesses who may testify at trial (Ladenburg). *Chapter 9.68A RCW*.