
SENATE BILL 6633

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators Brown, Conway, Dhingra, Kuderer, Hasegawa, Wagoner, Saldaña, Rivers, Wilson, L., Wilson, C., and Warnick

Read first time 01/28/20. Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to designating January as human trafficking
2 awareness month; adding a new section to chapter 7.68 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that human
6 trafficking is a scourge that affects thousands of adults and
7 children across the United States. Furthermore, the United States is
8 a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and
9 children subjected to forced labor, debt bondage, document servitude,
10 and sex trafficking. According to the national human trafficking
11 hotline, the number of human trafficking cases reported in Washington
12 doubled between 2012 and 2017. Additionally, the national human
13 trafficking hotline has fielded over three thousand calls from
14 Washington since 2007 and identified over one thousand five hundred
15 potential victims of human trafficking and in a recent study by the
16 human trafficking institute, Washington ranked thirteenth in the
17 nation for active cases in its federal courts. The United States
18 department of justice child exploitation and obscenity section
19 reports twelve is the average age of entry into pornography and
20 prostitution in the United States and that child victims are often
21 runaways and homeless youth. The legislature recognizes that the

1 attorney general maintains a web site intended to serve as a hub for
2 victims of human trafficking, watraffickinghelp.org. The legislature
3 further recognizes that designating January as human trafficking
4 awareness month has the goal of increasing awareness and
5 understanding for how to identify signs of human trafficking and act
6 as a deterrent. The Washington state legislature intends to observe
7 January as human trafficking awareness month and encourages the
8 people of Washington to be vigilant for signs of human trafficking
9 and be aware of the state and federal resources related to human
10 trafficking.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 7.68 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 January is recognized as human trafficking awareness month.

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