



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 5771



Offered by:

REP. DATHAN, 142nd Dist.
SEN. GADKAR-WILCOX, 22nd Dist.
REP. CARNEY, 23rd Dist.
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To: Subst. House Bill No. 5476

File No. 389

Cal. No. 276

"AN ACT CONCERNING OVERSIGHT OF EFFORTS TO PREVENT HUMAN TRAFFICKING."

1 Strike sections 1 and 2 in their entirety and substitute the following
2 in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section, "human
4 trafficking" has the same meaning as "trafficking", as defined in section
5 46a-170 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. The Criminal
6 Justice Policy and Planning Division within the Office of Policy and
7 Management shall evaluate the coordination of efforts among executive
8 branch state agencies and law enforcement agencies to prevent human
9 trafficking in the state and shall develop a comprehensive plan for how
10 activities and programs of executive branch state agencies and other
11 multidisciplinary partners should be coordinated to combat human
12 trafficking in the state. All executive branch state agencies shall provide
13 any assistance, information or data needed by the division to perform
14 the planning duties established under this section, to the extent

15 permitted under state and federal law.

16 (b) Not later than January 1, 2027, the division shall submit a copy of
17 the comprehensive plan developed under subsection (a) of this section,
18 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
19 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
20 cognizance of matters relating to government oversight, the judiciary
21 and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall
22 include, but need not be limited to, any recommendations for legislation
23 to implement the division's recommendations.

24 Sec. 2. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 46a-170 of the 2026
25 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
26 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

27 (a) There is established a Trafficking in Persons Council that shall be
28 within the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and
29 Opportunity for administrative purposes only.

30 (b) The council shall consist of the following members: (1) The Chief
31 State's Attorney, or a designee; (2) the Chief Public Defender, or a
32 designee; (3) the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
33 Protection, or the commissioner's designee; (4) the Labor Commissioner,
34 or the commissioner's designee; (5) the Commissioner of Social Services,
35 or the commissioner's designee; (6) the Commissioner of Public Health,
36 or the commissioner's designee; (7) the Commissioner of Mental Health
37 and Addiction Services, or the commissioner's designee; (8) the
38 Commissioner of Children and Families, or the commissioner's
39 designee; (9) the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the
40 commissioner's designee; (10) the Commissioner of Developmental
41 Services, or the commissioner's designee; (11) the Commissioner of
42 Transportation, or the commissioner's designee; (12) the director of the
43 Basic Training Division of the Police Officer Standards and Training
44 Council, or the director's designee; (13) the Child Advocate, or the Child
45 Advocate's designee; (14) the Victim Advocate, or the Victim Advocate's
46 designee; (15) a chairperson of the Commission on Women, Children,

47 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity, or the chairperson's designee; (16) the
48 Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee; (17) one representative
49 of the Office of Victim Services of the Judicial Branch appointed by the
50 Chief Court Administrator; [(17)] (18) a municipal police chief
51 appointed by the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, or a designee;
52 [(18)] (19) the Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's
53 designee; [(19)] (20) a judge of the Superior Court, appointed by the
54 Chief Court Administrator; [(20)] (21) a state's attorney appointed by the
55 Chief State's Attorney; [(21)] (22) a public defender appointed by the
56 Chief Public Defender; and [(22)] (23) sixteen public members appointed
57 as follows: The Governor shall appoint four members, one of whom
58 shall represent victims of commercial exploitation of children, one of
59 whom shall represent sex trafficking victims who are children and one
60 of whom shall represent a coalition of children's advocacy centers and
61 multidisciplinary teams that are dedicated to serving child abuse
62 victims and their families, the president pro tempore of the Senate shall
63 appoint two members, one of whom shall represent the Connecticut
64 Alliance to End Sexual Violence and one of whom shall represent an
65 organization that provides civil legal services to low-income
66 individuals, the speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint
67 two members, one of whom shall represent the Connecticut Coalition
68 Against Domestic Violence and one of whom shall represent the
69 Connecticut Lodging Association, the majority leader of the Senate shall
70 appoint two members, one of whom shall represent an organization that
71 deals with behavioral health needs of women and children and one of
72 whom shall represent the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness,
73 the majority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint two
74 members, one of whom shall represent an organization that advocates
75 on social justice and human rights issues and one of whom shall
76 represent the Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, the
77 minority leader of the Senate shall appoint two members, one of whom
78 shall represent the Connecticut Immigrant and Refugee Coalition and
79 one of whom shall represent massage therapists, and the minority
80 leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members, one
81 of whom shall represent the Motor Transport Association of

82 Connecticut, Inc. and one of whom shall represent an organization that
83 works with adult victims of trafficking."

84 In line 183, after "department" insert "except such training shall not
85 be required for employees or providers who do not have regular contact
86 with children while in the course of employment or while providing
87 such services. Such training may consist of a recorded training"

88 In line 203, after "children" insert "and adults"

89 Strike lines 210 to 212, inclusive, in their entirety, and substitute the
90 following in lieu thereof:

91 "Administrator may use a recorded training curriculum to satisfy the
92 requirements of this section."

93 Strike section 6 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
94 thereof:

95 "Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section, (1)
96 "child care facility" or "facility" has the same meaning as provided in
97 section 17a-93 of the general statutes, (2) "operator" means the person
98 responsible for the total operation of the child care facility, and (3)
99 "department" means the Department of Children and Families.

100 (b) Any operator of a child care facility shall:

101 (1) Maintain policies covering its plans, program and services which
102 shall be clearly stated in writing and reviewed for necessary updates not
103 less than annually and, upon request, submit evidence of such annual
104 review to the Department of Children and Families, in a manner
105 prescribed by the department;

106 (2) Maintain personnel policies for the training and education of
107 employees, temporary workers, volunteers and interns that include, but
108 are not limited to, (A) introductory orientation; (B) ongoing training and
109 development; (C) supervision; and (D) annual evaluations;

110 (3) Develop a plan for ongoing training which includes a written
111 curriculum and a minimum number of hours of annual training, review
112 such plan not less than once every two years, update such plan as
113 necessary for consistency with best practices and document the
114 implementation of such training in a manner prescribed by the
115 department;

116 (4) Submit to the department not less than once every two years a
117 written quality assurance plan that describes how the operator intends
118 to monitor the quality of the facility services, the extent to which the
119 facility complies with its stated purpose, program objectives, security
120 requirements and any other requirements of the department, including
121 any documentation of the implementation of the quality assurance plan,
122 with findings and, if applicable, an improvement plan, and make
123 immediately available any revision of the quality assurance plan to staff
124 of the facility and the department;

125 (5) Provide internal and external security measures necessary to
126 ensure the safety of residents of the facility; and

127 (6) Provide supervisory staff capable of ensuring (A) the health and
128 safety of each child; (B) the security and well-being of each child; and
129 (C) appropriate security of the facility while maintaining a home-like
130 atmosphere."

131 Strike section 8 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
132 thereof:

133 "Sec. 8. (Effective July 1, 2026) (a) The Statewide Steering Committee
134 of the Regionalized Human Trafficking Recovery Taskforce established
135 by the Division of Criminal Justice shall establish a Human Trafficking
136 Prevention and Response Subcommittee consisting of members
137 appointed by the Regionalized Human Trafficking Recovery Taskforce
138 as necessary to carry out the purposes of this section. Such
139 subcommittee shall serve as a public-private partnership to implement
140 the recommendations set forth in the Regionalized Human Trafficking

141 Recovery Taskforce's report entitled "A Blueprint to Strengthen
142 Connecticut's Response to Human Trafficking".

143 (b) Such implementation shall include, but need not be limited to:

144 (1) Advancing development of a permanent state-wide governing
145 body to coordinate the state's anti-trafficking response across agencies
146 and service providers, to assist both minor children and adult victims of
147 trafficking, as defined in section 46a-170 of the general statutes, as
148 amended by this act, and to create state-wide standards related to such
149 coordination;

150 (2) Creating and implementing a standardized, cross-disciplinary
151 human trafficking training framework and centralized learning
152 management system;

153 (3) Developing and implementing a unified state-wide data collection
154 process based on shared definitions, standardized reporting fields and
155 secure data-sharing protocols;

156 (4) Designing and implementing standardized, trauma-informed
157 screening questions and referral pathways to ensure consistent
158 identification of and response to victims of human trafficking across
159 systems;

160 (5) Expanding and strengthening state-wide service capacity by
161 mapping and verifying existing providers, identifying service and
162 funding gaps, and supporting development of a vetted state-wide
163 resource directory; and

164 (6) Reviewing trafficking trends, identifying systemic gaps and
165 developing policy recommendations to be submitted to the Trafficking
166 in Persons Council, established pursuant to section 46a-170 of the
167 general statutes, as amended by this act, consistent with the work
168 undertaken pursuant to this subsection.

169 (c) The subcommittee shall not replace or supersede the statutory

170 authority of Trafficking in Persons Council, established pursuant to
171 section 46a-170 of the general statutes, as amended by this act."

172 Strike lines 377 to 385, inclusive, in their entirety, and substitute the
173 following in lieu thereof:

174 "(b) The Commissioner of Children and Families [may] shall, within
175 available appropriations and in collaboration with the Criminal Justice
176 Policy and Planning Division within the Office of Policy and
177 Management, provide assistance to the Police Officer Standards and
178 Training Council in developing training [to] for law enforcement
179 [officials] officers regarding the trafficking of minor children [. The
180 training shall include, but not be limited to, (1) awareness and
181 compliance with the laws and protocols concerning trafficking of minor
182 children, (2) identification of, access to and provision of services for
183 minor children who are victims of trafficking, and (3) any other services
184 the department deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this
185 section and section 17a-106a] and adults, as described in section 501 of
186 this act."

187 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
188 internal references accordingly:

189 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Each police basic or review
190 training program conducted or administered by the Police Officer
191 Standards and Training Council established under section 7-294b of the
192 general statutes or a municipal police department in the state shall
193 include training on the trafficking of minor children and adults,
194 developed pursuant to section 17a-106f of the general statutes, as
195 amended by this act. The training shall include, but not be limited to, (1)
196 awareness and compliance with the laws and protocols concerning
197 trafficking of minor children and adults, (2) identification of, access to
198 and provision of services for minor children and adults who are victims
199 of trafficking, and (3) any other services the council deems necessary to
200 carry out the provisions of sections 17a-106a and 17a-106f of the general
201 statutes, as amended by this act.

202 Sec. 502. (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Not later than October 1, 2026, the
203 Commissioner of Correction shall issue a request for proposals to obtain
204 proposals for a confidential crisis hotline to report incidents of sexual
205 violence for purposes of making such hotline available to correction
206 officers and persons who are incarcerated in a correctional institution,
207 including, but not limited to, the York Correctional Institution. Not later
208 than January 1, 2027, the commissioner shall report the results of such
209 request for proposals and any request for appropriations to establish
210 such hotline, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
211 general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General
212 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government
213 oversight, judiciary and appropriations and the budgets of state
214 agencies.

215 Sec. 503. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Not later than December 1,
216 2026, the Commissioner of Correction shall (1) revise the Department of
217 Correction's existing policy concerning the use of any confidential crisis
218 hotline to report incidents of sexual violence that is available to
219 correction officers and persons who are incarcerated in a correctional
220 institution, and (2) post such revised policy on the Internet web site of
221 the department. The revised policy shall ensure that persons who are
222 incarcerated can access such hotline at no charge, in a location that
223 enables such persons to access such hotline confidentially and without
224 the supervision of, or permission from, any employee of the Department
225 of Correction.

226 Sec. 504. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 4-68m of the 2026
227 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
228 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

229 (a) There is established a Criminal Justice Policy and Planning
230 Division within the Office of Policy and Management. The division shall
231 be under the direction of an undersecretary.

232 (b) The division shall promote a more effective and cohesive state
233 criminal justice system by:

- 234 (1) Conducting an in-depth analysis of the criminal justice system;
- 235 (2) Determining the long-range needs of the criminal justice system
236 and recommending policy priorities for the system;
- 237 (3) Identifying critical problems in the criminal justice system and
238 recommending strategies to solve those problems;
- 239 (4) Assessing the cost-effectiveness of the use of state and local funds
240 in the criminal justice system;
- 241 (5) Recommending means to improve the deterrent and rehabilitative
242 capabilities of the criminal justice system;
- 243 (6) Advising and assisting the General Assembly in developing plans,
244 programs and proposed legislation for improving the effectiveness of
245 the criminal justice system;
- 246 (7) Making computations of daily costs and comparing interagency
247 costs on services provided by agencies that are a part of the criminal
248 justice system;
- 249 (8) Making population computations for use in planning for the long-
250 range needs of the criminal justice system;
- 251 (9) Determining long-range information needs of the criminal justice
252 system and acquiring that information;
- 253 (10) Cooperating with the Office of the Victim Advocate by providing
254 information and assistance to the office relating to the improvement of
255 crime victims' services;
- 256 (11) Serving as the liaison for the state to the United States
257 Department of Justice on criminal justice issues of interest to the state
258 and federal government relating to data, information systems and
259 research;
- 260 (12) Measuring the success of community-based services and

- 261 programs in reducing recidivism;
- 262 (13) Developing and implementing a comprehensive reentry strategy
 263 as provided in section 18-81w;
- 264 (14) Engaging in other activities consistent with the responsibilities of
 265 the division; [and]
- 266 (15) Advising and providing assistance to the state concerning
 267 development of coordination of trafficking prevention efforts among
 268 executive branch state agencies and other multidisciplinary partners,
 269 including, but not limited to, assisting in providing training pursuant to
 270 section 17a-106f, as amended by this act; and
- 271 ~~[(15)]~~ (16) Developing and implementing policies for the state-wide
 272 delivery of postsecondary educational programs in correctional
 273 facilities, including, but not limited to, policies pertaining to federal Pell
 274 grants and prison education programs."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 2	July 1, 2026	46a-170(a) and (b)
Sec. 6	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 8	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 501	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 502	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 503	October 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 504	July 1, 2026	4-68m(a) and (b)