
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 116

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

SUMMARY

This bill makes three changes related to the prevention of human trafficking. It:

1. requires the Department of Revenue Services to disclose on its website by the 15th of each month, beginning by November 15, 2026, the names and addresses of hotel, lodging house, and bed and breakfast operators that paid state use taxes during the last completed calendar month;
2. authorizes a municipality's chief executive officer (CEO), or the CEO's designee, to (a) examine, copy, and audit hotel, motel, inn, or lodging records to ensure compliance with certain laws, and (b) enter locations to access the records; and
3. permits a municipality to adopt an ordinance that (a) authorizes its CEO to issue an order prohibiting a hotel, motel, inn, or lodging from operating due to a violation of these same laws and (b) sets a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for these violations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

MUNICIPAL CEO ACCESS TO RECORDS

The bill authorizes a municipality's CEO, or the CEO's designee, to examine, copy, and audit hotel, motel, inn, or lodging records to ensure compliance with:

1. record-keeping requirements for guest transactions and receipts (CGS § 44-4),
2. requirements for training new employees and providing them

with ongoing awareness campaigns about recognizing potential human trafficking victims and activities commonly associated with human trafficking (operators must certify that employees received this training in their personnel files) (CGS § 44-5),

3. the law prohibiting financial discounts or benefits based on an hourly rate or occupancy for up to 12 hours (CGS § 44-6), and
4. the requirement to post a notice in a conspicuous location about services for human trafficking victims and anti-trafficking telephone hotlines (CGS § 54-234a(a)).

The bill permits the municipal CEO to enter and inspect the premises and other locations where relevant records may be kept at reasonable hours as necessary for this purpose.

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE

The bill permits a municipality to adopt an ordinance that:

1. allows its CEO, or the CEO's designee, to issue an order prohibiting a hotel, motel, inn, or lodging from operating due to a violation of one the laws described above;
2. sets a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for these violations; and
3. requires notice and a hearing before imposing one of these orders or civil penalties.

The bill allows a person to appeal an order or civil penalty under this ordinance to court. It provides that the ordinance's provisions are in addition to any other penalties and remedies that may be available to anyone.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/11/2026)