

AB 1239 - Human Trafficking: Data

SUMMARY

AB 1239 would require the Department of Justice (DOJ) to include information on the arrests for human trafficking and the number of individuals who have been a victim of human trafficking on the OpenJustice Web portal.

EXISTING LAW

Under existing law (Penal Code 13010) the Department of Justice is required to collect data from specified local law enforcement agencies and to make this data available on the department's OpenJustice Web portal.

Alongside broader reporting requirements, existing law also specifies further reporting requirements for a number of crimes, surveys and peace officer activity. For example, the DOJ is required to provide data on adult probation (Penal Code 13020), anti-reproductive rights crimes (Penal Code 13777), arrests (Penal Code 13020), citizen complaints against peace officers (Penal Code 13012), deaths in custody, (Government Code 12525), domestic violence related calls for assistance (Penal Code 13730), homicides (Penal Code 13014 and 13022), and hate crimes (Penal Code 13023). However, there is no explicit requirement to provide data on human trafficking or the victims of human trafficking.

ISSUE

Despite the positive steps taken by the legislature to tackle human trafficking and provide services to victims, there is currently a significant lack of data on human trafficking within California. The most recent DOJ report on human trafficking was released in 2012. Furthermore, the most recent DOJ *Criminal Statistics Reporting Requirements* report does not include any reporting requirements for human trafficking or the victims, and the annual *Crime in California* report by the DOJ has no information on human trafficking.

The lack of available data on human trafficking is particularly concerning and a critical oversight as this data is a crucial component of effective policy solutions. In addition, this lack of available data undermines the severity and prevalence of human trafficking as an issue, making it more difficult to identify areas of need for survivors.

SOLUTION

To address these issues, and to align the reporting of human trafficking with other crimes, AB 1239 would require that data on arrests for human trafficking and the number of individuals who have been a victim of human trafficking be made available on the DOJ's OpenJustice Web portal.

SIMILAR LEGISLATION

AB 1740 (Sanchez, 2023) - Human trafficking: notice: pediatric care facilities - Chaptered

AB 2020 (Bonta, 2024) - Survivors of Human Trafficking Support Act - Chaptered

SB 376 (Rubio, 2024) - Human trafficking: victim rights - Chaptered

AB 998 (Grayson, 2018) - Multidisciplinary teams: human trafficking and domestic violence - Chaptered

SUPPORT

None on File.

OPPOSITION

None on File.

CO-AUTHORS

None on File.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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