



HOUSE BILL 12-1151 – HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND PROSTITUTION

Q: What are the primary changes under this law?

A: There were several changes to Colorado statute as a result of the passage of House Bill 1151:

- Individuals convicted of trafficking may be held liable for damages caused as a result of the trafficking. Property or vehicles used for the purpose of trafficking can be subject to seizure, confiscation, and/or forfeiture.
- A person who has been trafficked can now more easily seek restitution through the civil legal system.
- People working in Colorado's escort bureaus must now be given information about human trafficking, including victim assistance information.
- Massage parlors must also post victim services information, as well as a notice that trafficking is illegal.

Q: Does this legislation help minors who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking?

A: Yes! Under House Bill 1151, if a victim obtained a conviction related to trafficking (e.g., prostitution or soliciting for prostitution) while being a minor, then s/he can petition the court to have those criminal justice records expunged.

- While a human trafficking victim who received a conviction as an adult cannot have that record expunged, this bill does create a process to seal conviction records related to prostitution for adult victims of human trafficking.

Q: When does this bill take effect?

A: August 9, 2012

Q: Does sex trafficking really happen in Colorado?

A: Unfortunately yes. Since its inception in 2007, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline has received 455 calls from Colorado.ⁱ While these cases are oftentimes difficult to investigate and prosecute, fourteen suspects were arrested for the sex trafficking of minors in Denver, Grand Junction, and Boulder in January 2012.ⁱⁱ

Q: Where can I read House Bill 1151 in entirety?

A: Visit www.leg.state.co.us or email advocacy@ccasa.org for a copy of the Act.

Q: How can I get involved in public policy efforts to support victims of sex trafficking and/or commercial sexual exploitation?

A: Consider being a part of the CCASA Public Policy Committee! Email advocacy@ccasa.org for more information.

ⁱ Polaris Project; www.polarisproject.org

ⁱⁱ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/01/31/child-sex-trafficking-colorado_n_1243966.html