

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS AND
INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE

Introduced By: Senators Morgan, Coyne, Lynch Prata, Nesselbush, and Goodwin

Date Introduced: March 02, 2017

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 11-67 of the General Laws entitled "Trafficking of Persons and
2 Involuntary Servitude" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **11-67-9. Human trafficking public awareness signs - Required.**

4 (a)(1) The Rhode Island department of transportation and any public or quasi-public
5 transportation agency shall display public awareness signs that contain the state and National
6 Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline information in every transportation station, rest area,
7 and welcome center in the state which is open to the public.

8 (2) The required public awareness sign must be at least eight and one-half inches by
9 eleven inches (8 ½" x 11") in size, must be printed in at least a sixteen (16) point type, and must
10 state substantially the following in English and Spanish:

11 "If you or someone you know is being forced to engage in an activity and cannot leave,
12 whether it is prostitution, housework, farm work, factory work, retail work, restaurant work, or
13 any other activity, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888 or
14 text INFO or HELP to 233-733 to access help and services. Victims of slavery and human
15 trafficking are protected under United States and Rhode Island law."

16 Posted pursuant to chapter 67 of title 11.

17 (b) The employer at each of the following establishments shall display public awareness
18 signs pursuant to subsection (a) of this section in a conspicuous location that is clearly visible to

1 the public and employees of the establishment:

2 (1) A strip club or other sexually-oriented business;

3 (2) A business entity previously found to be a nuisance for prostitution;

4 (3) A job recruitment center;

5 (4) A hospital; or

6 (5) An emergency care provider.

7 (c) The department of labor and training shall impose a fine of three hundred dollars

8 (\$300) per violation on an employer that knowingly fails to comply with subsection (b) of this

9 section. The fine shall be the exclusive remedy for failure to comply.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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- 1 This act would require the posting of human trafficking awareness signs at certain state
- 2 rest and welcome areas as well as at certain businesses.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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