



COALITION TO
ABOLISH SLAVERY
& TRAFFICKING

California Legislation Enacted in 2019 Impacting Survivors of Human Trafficking

*Denotes Cast Sponsored Bills

** Denotes Cast Staff Fellowship Sponsored Bill

*[AB 629](#) (Smith/Gonzalez) **Crime victims: the California Victim Compensation Board**

Summary: This bill authorizes the California Victim Compensation Board to provide a victim of human trafficking with compensation for loss of income, calculated at up to 40 hours per week, incurred as a result of the victimization. The payment is capped at \$5,000 for the first year and \$5,000 for the second year. The board is directed to adopt guidelines allowing the board to rely on evidence other than official employment documentation.

[AB 865](#) (Reyes) **Resource family approval: training

Summary: This bill starting January 1, 2020 requires counties to include information on providing care and supervision to children who have been commercially sexually exploited as part of the mandatory preapproval caregiver training. The bill requires resource families that care for children who are 10 years of age or older to attend, within 12 months of approval as a resource family, a training on how to use best practices for providing care and supervision to children who have been commercially sexually exploited.

[AB 917](#) (Reyes) **Victims of crime: nonimmigrant status**

Summary: The U Visa and T Visa are forms of immigration relief that are governed by federal law. However, state law (Penal Code §679.10) sets forth how Certifying Officials from state and local law enforcement agencies determine whether a victim cooperated with the investigation or prosecution of a qualifying crime and the timeline within which certification requests must be processed. Currently, Certifying Officials must process certification requests within 90 days of the request and within 14 days of the request if the person is in removal proceedings. This bill reduces the timeline for processing certification requests to within 30 days of the request or, if the person is in removal proceedings, within 7 days of the first business day after the request was received.

[AB 1296](#) (Gonzalez) **Tax Recovery in the Underground Economy Criminal Enforcement Program**

Summary: Existing law, until January 1, 2019, established the Revenue Recovery and Collaborative Enforcement Team, as a pilot program consisting of a team of agencies leads to combat criminal tax evasion associated with the underground economy. This bill permanently established this program to combat underground economic activities through a multiagency collaboration to, among other things, pool resources, collaborate and

share data, prosecute violations, and recover state revenue lost to the underground economy. Tax Recovery in the Underground Economy Criminal Enforcement Program investigative teams will be located in Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Diego, the San Francisco Bay area, and Fresno governed by the Underground Economy Criminal Enforcement Program executive board to ensure multiagency collaboration and to oversee the investigative teams. The bill authorizes, and in certain circumstances requires, the exchange of confidential information. The bill requires that information exchanged pursuant to these provisions retain its confidential status.

***[AB 1735](#) (Bauer-Kahan) Human Trafficking Caseworker Privilege**

Summary: This bill allows a human trafficking victim's current caseworker to claim the privilege, even if that caseworker was not the victim's caseworker at the time the confidential communication was made. This bill also expands the list of topics about which human trafficking caseworkers shall be trained to qualify for the privilege and requires a caseworker to have at least one year of experience working with human trafficking victims or have taken 40 hours of training to qualify for the privilege.

[SB 233](#) (Wiener) Immunity from arrest

Summary: The bill prohibits the arrest of a person for a misdemeanor violation of specified sex crimes, if that person is reporting a crime of sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, robbery, assault, kidnapping, threats, blackmail, extortion, burglary, or another violent crime. The bill also proscribes that possession of condoms in any amount does not provide a basis for probable cause for arrest for specified sex work crimes and the introduction of possession of a condom as evidence in prosecution for an offense related to prostitution.

[AB 662](#) (Cunningham) Crimes against minors

Summary: This bill updated existing criminal law making it a crime to entice an unmarried female under 18 years of age and of previous chaste character to a house of prostitution or elsewhere for the purpose of prostitution or illicit carnal connection with a man, to aid or assist in that enticement, or to procure by fraudulent means a female to have illicit carnal connection with a man, as specified. The law was updated to be gender neutral and removed the requirement that the minor be of previous chaste character.

***[SB 630](#) (Stern) Human Trafficking: Hotline Posting Enforcement**

Summary: This bill amends Section 52.6 of the Civil Code requiring specified business to post information about human trafficking, including hotline and text numbers that a victim can call for help. Despite this legal mandate, many businesses are not in compliance. This bill strengthens enforcement provisions by enabling local jurisdictions to enact ordinances to better ensure that businesses are complying with posting requirements.

[ACR 7](#) (Waldron R) Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Summary: This measure proclaims the month of January 2019 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, and encourages certain activities to honor that month.

HR 7 (Reyes) Relative to Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Summary: Proclaims January 2019 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in California in order to encourage greater awareness of human trafficking in CA, the US, and internationally.

SR 11(Leyva D) Relative to Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Summary: The Senate proclaims January 2019 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in California in order to encourage greater awareness of human trafficking within the State of California, the United States, and internationally.

Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking Contacts:

Stephanie Richard, Senior Policy Advisor, (213)-3655249, Stephanie@castla.org

Kay Buck, Executive Director (213) 365-0887, Kay@castla.org

Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking

Systemic change is at the core of CAST's mission. Taking a survivor-centered approach to ending modern slavery, CAST has a proven track record of working directly with survivors of human trafficking which builds an important bridge between practice and policy to inform effective policy initiatives. . By developing broad-based partnerships, CAST effectively advocates for policies that work to end human trafficking and help survivors rebuild their lives.

Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST)
(213) 365-1906
3751 West 6th Street, #70308, Los Angeles CA
info@castla.org www.castla.org