

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to human trafficking; creating s.
 3 787.08, F.S.; providing legislative findings;
 4 authorizing the Department of Transportation and
 5 business owners to display human trafficking public
 6 awareness signs at specified locations; requiring the
 7 Attorney General to approve the form and content of
 8 such signs; providing sign description; authorizing
 9 rulemaking; providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Section 787.08, Florida Statutes, is created to
 14 read:

15 787.08 Human trafficking public awareness signs.—

16 (1) The Legislature finds that the exploitation and trade
 17 of human beings is the equivalent of erstwhile practices of
 18 human captivity and, as such, is an equally lucrative industry.
 19 Human beings are not to be traded for bonded or forced labor or
 20 sexual exploitation. It is estimated that more than 4 million
 21 people fall prey to trafficking every year. Women and children
 22 are the most vulnerable victims of trafficking, although,
 23 increasingly, men are also being trafficked to work as unskilled
 24 labor in factories.

25 (2) The Department of Transportation may display a public
 26 awareness sign developed under subsection (4) at a rest area,

27 turnpike service plaza, weigh station, and welcome center in the
 28 state that is open to the public.

29 (3) A business owner may display at his or her
 30 establishment a public awareness sign developed under subsection
 31 (4) near the public entrance of the establishment or in another
 32 conspicuous location that is clearly visible to both the public
 33 and employees of the establishment.

34 (4) (a) The Attorney General shall approve the form and
 35 content of a sign authorized by this section.

36 (b) The public awareness sign must be at least 8.5 inches
 37 by 11 inches in size, must be printed in at least a 16-point
 38 type, and may include, but is not limited to, the following in
 39 English, Spanish, or any other language approved by the Attorney
 40 General:

41 "If you or someone you know is being forced to engage in an
 42 activity and is being held against your or his or her will,
 43 whether it is housework, farm work, factory work, retail
 44 work, restaurant work, or any other activity, call the
 45 National Human Trafficking Resource Center at [insert
 46 number] or text INFO or HELP to [insert number] to access
 47 help and services. Victims of human trafficking are
 48 protected under United States and Florida law."

49 (5) The Attorney General may adopt rules to implement this
 50 section.

51 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2016.