

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 521



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by: SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That the general statutes be amended to protect children and youth 2 from sex trafficking in Connecticut by (1) updating certain criminal 3 statutes to make them applicable to conduct against minors and include 4 buyer conduct; (2) developing policy guidance to facilitate appropriate 5 responses to foreign national child sex trafficking victims; (3) requiring 6 child welfare and juvenile justice agencies to conduct trauma-informed 7 commercial sexual exploitation of children screening of children who 8 are at risk of sex trafficking and require the agencies to provide 9 specialized services for identified sex-trafficked children; (4) expressly 10 providing commercial sexual exploitation of children victims ability to 11 obtain orders of protection against their exploiters; (5) amending 12 subsection (a) of section 54-86g of the general statutes to allow all 13 commercial sexual exploitation of children victims to testify by 14 alternative method, regardless of age; (6) providing commercial sexual 15 exploitation of children victims with a child sex trafficking-specific 16 caseworker, and protect their communications as privileged to protect

- 17 the victim's conversations with the caseworker from being disclosed;
- 18 and (7) mandating state-wide training for child welfare and juvenile
- 19 justice agencies on identification and response to child sex trafficking.

Statement of Purpose:

To protect children and youth from sex trafficking in Connecticut.