

SENATE BILL 542

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CF HB 1322

By: **Senators Harrington and Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2010

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 2010

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Health Business Regulation – Lodging Establishments – National Human~~
3 ~~Trafficking Resource Center Hotline – Posting of Information~~

4 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt~~
5 ~~certain regulations related to the posting of a certain notice regarding the~~
6 ~~National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline;~~ requiring the
7 Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to design a sign that contains
8 certain information regarding the National Human Trafficking Resource Center
9 Hotline; requiring the sign to meet certain requirements and be placed on the
10 Department’s website; requiring a lodging establishment to post a certain sign
11 in certain places for a certain period of time if certain conditions are met;
12 providing a certain penalty for the violation of a certain provision of this Act;
13 and generally relating to the posting of lodging establishments and information
14 regarding the National Human Trafficking Resource Center ~~hotline~~ Hotline.

15 ~~BY adding to~~
16 ~~Article – Health – General~~
17 ~~Section 24–213~~
18 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
19 ~~(2009 Replacement Volume)~~

20 BY adding to
21 Article – Business Regulation
22 Section 15–207
23 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

2 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
3 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

4 ~~Article – Health – General~~

5 ~~24-213.~~

6 ~~(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS REQUIRING THE~~
7 ~~POSTING OF A NOTICE INFORMING INDIVIDUALS OF THE PHONE NUMBER FOR~~
8 ~~AND OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING~~
9 ~~RESOURCE CENTER HOTLINE.~~

10 ~~(B) THE REGULATIONS SHALL ESTABLISH:~~

11 ~~(1) THE BUILDINGS AND COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS WHERE~~
12 ~~THE NOTICE IS REQUIRED TO BE POSTED;~~

13 ~~(2) STANDARDS FOR THE SIZE AND FORMAT OF THE NOTICE;~~

14 ~~(3) THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE~~
15 ~~NOTICE; AND~~

16 ~~(4) THE LANGUAGES IN WHICH THE NOTICE SHALL BE~~
17 ~~DISPLAYED.~~

18 Article – Business Regulation

19 15-207.

20 (A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGN A SIGN THAT STATES THE
21 FOLLOWING:

22 “REPORT HUMAN TRAFFICKING: NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING
23 RESOURCE CENTER – 1-888-373-7888. CALL FOR HELP IF YOU OR
24 SOMEONE YOU KNOW:

- 25 • IS BEING FORCED TO HAVE SEX WITHOUT CONSENT
- 26 • HAS HAD AN ID OR DOCUMENTS TAKEN AWAY
- 27 • IS BEING THREATENED BY OR IS IN DEBT TO AN EMPLOYER
- 28 • WANTS TO LEAVE A JOB BUT CANNOT FREELY SO.

29 TOLL-FREE. 24/7. CONFIDENTIAL. INTERPRETERS
30 AVAILABLE.

1 THIS SIGN IS REQUIRED UNDER STATE LAW.”

2 (2) THE SIGN SHALL:

3 (I) BE AT LEAST 3 BY 5 INCHES IN SIZE;

4 (II) CONTAIN THE TEXT REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)
5 OF THIS SUBSECTION IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, AND ANY OTHER LANGUAGES
6 REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT;

7 (III) DRAW ATTENTION TO THE PHONE NUMBER OF THE
8 NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE CENTER HOTLINE BY SHOWING
9 THE PHONE NUMBER IN BOLD TYPE; AND

10 (IV) BE PLACED ON THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE.

11 (B) (1) A STATE, COUNTY, OR MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
12 AGENCY MAY ISSUE A CIVIL CITATION TO A LODGING ESTABLISHMENT
13 REQUIRING IT TO POST PROMINENTLY IN EACH GUEST ROOM FOR 1 YEAR THE
14 SIGN THAT IS IDENTICAL TO THE NOTICE REQUIRED TO BE PLACED ON THE
15 WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, IF
16 THE LODGING ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED ON PROPERTY WHERE ARRESTS
17 LEADING TO CONVICTIONS OF PROSTITUTION, SOLICITATION OF A MINOR, OR
18 HUMAN TRAFFICKING UNDER TITLE 11, SUBTITLE 13 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW
19 ARTICLE HAVE OCCURRED.

20 (2) A STATE, COUNTY, OR MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
21 AGENCY SHALL CONSIDER ANY ASSISTANCE IT RECEIVES FROM A LODGING
22 ESTABLISHMENT IN AN INVESTIGATION LEADING TO A CONVICTION UNDER
23 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IN DETERMINING WHETHER TO ISSUE A
24 CITATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

25 (C) (1) THE OWNER OF A LODGING ESTABLISHMENT THAT VIOLATES
26 SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT
27 EXCEEDING \$1,000.

28 (2) EACH GUEST ROOM THAT DOES NOT HAVE A SIGN IS NOT A
29 SEPARATE VIOLATION.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 October 1, 2010.