

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1222**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 4, 2023

The Assembly Judiciary Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1222.

This bill provides for civil actions against persons or entities who knowingly profit from the commission of human trafficking offenses, or maintaining the victims of such offenses, even though such parties are not “acting in concert” with the offender and thus not involved in any agreed-upon conspiracy with the offender. In other words, these parties could be subject to a civil suit if they are aware of human trafficking offenses and allow such offenses to continue while receiving a pecuniary benefit from such, or by maintaining the trafficking victims.

The bill expands the statute providing for human trafficking civil actions, N.J.S.A.2C:13-8.1, beyond its current scope, which addresses suits against any person who commits the human trafficking offense and any conspiring parties who are “acting in concert” with that person.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 1222 is identical to Senate Bill No. 1211, which was also reported by the committee on this date.