
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1541 (Dixon) - Human trafficking: data

Version: February 9, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: June 22, 2026

Policy Vote: PUB. S. 6 - 0

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: AB 1541 would require the Department of Justice (DOJ) to include information concerning arrests and convictions and reported victims of human trafficking on the OpenJustice Web portal.

Fiscal Impact: Minor costs to DOJ to integrate additional human trafficking related information to its OpenJustice Web portal. DOJ notes that by itself, this bill would not pose a significant fiscal impact. However, DOJ cautions that if several such “no fiscal impact” bills become law, the cumulative fiscal effect may be significant. As a result, DOJ would request additional budget resources to accommodate the additional workload (General Fund).

Costs to local law enforcement agencies to collect and report to DOJ information about arrests and convictions and reported victims of human trafficking. Costs to each agency may not be significant for individual agencies but will likely be significant in the aggregate. Law enforcement agencies may also incur one-time costs to update data collection systems and practices to facilitate collection and reporting of the required data. The state must reimburse these agencies’ costs if the Commission on State Mandates determines the duties imposed by this bill constitute a reimbursable state mandate (General Fund).

Background: Existing law requires DOJ to maintain and annually update its OpenJustice online portal. OpenJustice is a website on which DOJ publishes California criminal justice data and DOJ’s annual reports that analyze the data. On OpenJustice, DOJ publishes information about arrests and arrest disposition (the outcome of an arrest), including the number of arrests for misdemeanors generally, and the number of arrests for certain felonies, including homicide, kidnapping, burglary, and certain drug offenses, among others. Arrest information is reported to DOJ by the law enforcement agencies that make the arrests.

In 2016, the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Director informed all state Statistical Analysis Centers that the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program would be transitioning to a National Incident-Based Reporting System by January 1, 2021. The DOJ embarked on a five-year effort to develop and implement a new state repository, the California Incident-Based Reporting System, to house the FBI statistical reporting format. The California Incident-Based Reporting System is a combination of federal requirements with additional state specific data elements. The data are a combination of both the summary and incident-based reporting formats. There is an established method for converting data into summary data for comparison and trending purposes.

Related Legislation: AB 1239 (Dixon) Chapter 393/2025 required DOJ to begin to include in the information made available on the OpenJustice Web portal information concerning arrests for human trafficking and the number of individuals who have been a victim of human trafficking.

Staff Comments: The process of posting conviction data differs between the courts and other law enforcement agencies, e.g., police, sheriffs, probation, etc.) with conviction data referring to dispositions made by the courts. The Automated Criminal History System (ACHS), the repository for state summary criminal history information, includes conviction data, but courts cannot directly post (add or edit or remove) data in the ACHS. Courts, and in some counties law enforcement agencies in support of the courts, submit the conviction data to DOJ and DOJ staff post the data to ACHS. Other law enforcement agencies can directly post arrest data, including arrest disposition data to the ACHS with some restrictions.