

Date of Hearing: April 14, 2026

Counsel: Mary Kennedy

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Nick Schultz, Chair

AB 2720 (Schiavo) – As Amended March 16, 2026

As Proposed to be Amended in Committee

SUMMARY: Requires each law enforcement agency with 25 peace officers to designate at least one human trafficking victim support coordinator by January 1, 2028. Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Provides each law enforcement agency that employs more than 25 full-time sworn peace officers shall designate at least one human trafficking victim support coordinator no later than January 1, 2028.
- 2) Provides that a human trafficking victim support coordinator may be a nonsworn employee.
- 3) Provides that a human traffic coordinator shall take the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) course on the commercial sexual exploitation of children and human trafficking no later than six months after designation.
- 4) Provides that upon completion of the POST course, the human trafficking victim support coordinator shall serve as a liaison between trusted community-based organizations and victims.
- 5) Requires, by July 1, 2028, each law enforcement agency to display on their website the following information:
 - a) A list of trusted community-based organizations available to support human trafficking within the agency’s jurisdiction.
 - b) If applicable, the email address and the direct office phone line of any designated human trafficking support coordinators.
- 6) Defines “human trafficking” as a violation of 236.1 of the Penal Code.
- 7) Defines “law enforcement agency” as any department or agency of the state, or any local government, special district, or other political subdivision thereof, that employs any peace officer.

EXISTING LAW:

- 1) States that a person who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to obtain forced labor or services, guilty of human trafficking and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for 5, 8, or 12 years and a fine of not more than five hundred thousand dollars. (Pen. Code, § 236.1, subd. (a).)

- 2) States that a person who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to effect or maintain a violation of specified sex offenses is guilty of human trafficking and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for 8, 14, or 20 years and a fine of not more than \$500,000. (Pen. Code, § 236.1, subd. (b).)
- 3) States that a person who causes, induces, or persuades, or attempts to cause, induce, or persuade, a person who is a minor at the time of commission of the offense to engage in a commercial sex act, with the intent to effect or maintain a violation of specified sex offenses is guilty of human trafficking. (Pen. Code, § 236.1, subd. (c).)
- 4) Authorizes a city, county, city and county, or community-based non-profit to establish a domestic violence multidisciplinary personnel team and a human trafficking multidisciplinary personnel team consisting of two or more persons trained in the prevention, identification, management, or treatment of domestic violence or human trafficking. (Pen. Code, § 1370)
- 5) Requires POST, in consultation with subject-matter experts including, but not limited to, law enforcement agencies, civil rights groups, academic experts, and the DOJ, to develop guidelines and a course of instruction and training for law enforcement officers who are employed as peace officers, or who are not yet employed as a peace officer but are enrolled in a training academy for law enforcement officers, addressing hate crimes. (Pen. Code, § 13519.6, subd. (a).)

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Author's Statement:** According to the author, "Existing law does not facilitate cooperation between law enforcement agencies (LEA) and human trafficking victim serving organizations. When human trafficking organizations inquire about individual cases or missing persons suspected of being trafficked there is no single individual that is the point of contact. This bill will ensure that all LEAs have a human trafficking victim support coordinator that will serve as a liaison between the agency and trusted victim serving organizations."
- 2) **Requirement of a human trafficking support coordinator:** According to background from the author, not all police agencies work well with community organizations designed to help human trafficking victims. This bill would require police agencies with 25 or more peace officers to designate a human trafficking victim support coordinator who will be trained by POST and be a liaison between trusted community-based organizations and victims.

Under existing law, a locality may create an interdisciplinary personnel team to help human trafficking victims and improve their access to treatment and programs, known as Family Justice Centers. According to the California Family Justice Network, 28 such centers have been developed and two more are in the process of opening. The liaison within the police agency in this bill would be in addition to any existing Family Justice Center.

- 3) **Information to be published on an agency's website:** In order to give victims an ability to more easily find the assistance they need, this bill would require each law enforcement agency to display on their website a list of trusted community-based organizations available to support human trafficking victims within the agency's jurisdiction. Agencies shall also display the email address and any other contact information of the designated human trafficking victim support coordinator.

The requirement that agencies publish on their website trusted community groups and contact information for their liaison is not clearly limited to law enforcement agencies with 25 or more peace officers. If the bill is amended in the future the author may wish to make this clarification.

- 4) **Argument in Opposition:** None submitted

5) **Prior Legislation**

- a) AB 449 (Ting), Chapter 524, Statutes 2023, required state and local law enforcement agencies to adopt a hate crime policy by July 1, 2024, and to submit those policies to the Department of Justice.
- b) AB 1947 (Ting), of the 2021-2022 Legislative Session, would have required law enforcement agencies to report their hate crime policy and brochure to the Department of Justice by a specified date and to require POST to develop a model hate crimes policy. AB 1947 died on the Senate inactive file.
- c) AB 998 (Grayson), Chapter 802, Statutes 2018, authorized a city, county, city and county, or community-based non-profit to establish a domestic violence multidisciplinary personnel team and a human trafficking multidisciplinary personnel team consisting of two or more person strained in the prevention, identification, management, or treatment of domestic violence or human trafficking.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

1 Private Individual

Opposition

None submitted.

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