

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

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

Policy Committee: Public Safety

Vote: 9 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: Yes

Reimbursable: Yes

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires law enforcement agencies that employ more than 25 full-time sworn peace officers to designate at least one human trafficking victim support coordinator by January 1, 2028, and requires all law enforcement agencies to post specified trafficking-related information on the agency website by July 1, 2028.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires the designated coordinator to complete the existing POST human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children course within six months of designation, and thereafter serve as a liaison between the agency and trusted community-based organizations.
- 2) Requires each law enforcement agency to post on its website a list of trusted community-based organizations supporting trafficking victims within the agency's jurisdiction and, where applicable, the direct contact information for the designated coordinator.
- 3) Defines "law enforcement agency" as any state or local agency employing a peace officer as described in Penal Code section 830.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- 1) Potentially reimbursable state-mandated local program costs (General Fund), likely in the low millions one-time and minor ongoing, for local law enforcement agencies to designate coordinators, complete the required POST training, and establish required website postings. One-time training costs include both tuition/enrollment and, where agencies designate a sworn officer, backfill costs to maintain patrol and investigative coverage while the officer is in training — typically several thousand dollars per officer for a multi-day specialized POST course. The bill's authorization to designate a nonsworn employee materially mitigates this cost, as nonsworn designees do not require sworn backfill. Actual reimbursement is contingent on Commission on State Mandates determination.
- 2) Approximately \$150,000 annually (POST Training Fund) for reimbursements associated with sending coordinators through the POST course of instruction described in Penal Code Section 13516.5, based on POST's estimate that 345 local agencies would be subject to the coordinator-designation requirement. POST notes that the referenced course is specific to commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and victims of human trafficking and is

not a course most peace officers have previously completed, which drives the training reimbursement cost.

**COMMENTS:**

1) **Purpose.** 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) **Background.** Human trafficking under Penal Code Section 236.1 includes both labor trafficking and sex trafficking. POST currently maintains two relevant courses of instruction: a two-hour course required of every officer assigned field or investigative duties under Penal Code Section 13519.14, focused on handling human trafficking complaints; and a separate course under Penal Code Section 13516.5, focused on commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and victims of human trafficking. This bill requires designated coordinators to complete the latter, more in-depth course rather than the broadly completed two-hour course.

Existing law also authorizes localities to establish multidisciplinary human trafficking personnel teams, often known as Family Justice Centers. According to the California Family Justice Network, 28 such centers operate in the state with two additional centers in development. The coordinator role created by this bill would supplement, not replace, those existing structures. POST reports that amending the training reference to either Penal Code Section 13519.14 (the general two-hour human trafficking complaints course required of officers assigned to field or investigative duties) or, alternatively, to any POST-certified human trafficking training would substantially reduce or eliminate the training reimbursement cost, as those courses are already widely completed by law enforcement personnel.

As noted in the policy committee analysis, the website posting requirement is not clearly limited to agencies with more than 25 peace officers; on its face, it applies to every law enforcement agency in the state. Smaller agencies that are not required to designate a coordinator would still need to post a list of trusted community-based organizations.

**Analysis Prepared by:** Shiran Zohar / APPR. / (916) 319-2081