

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING  
AB 2720 (Schiavo)  
As Amended May 18, 2026  
Majority vote

## SUMMARY

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

### Major Provisions

- 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 handling of human trafficking complaints 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.

## COMMENTS

### 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."

### **Arguments in Support**

According to the *California Survivor Coalition*, "For survivors of trafficking, the first interaction with law enforcement is often decisive. It determines whether a victim is identified, believed, and connected to services, or whether they are misidentified, criminalized, retraumatized, left without support.

"This bill addresses a critical gap by requiring law enforcement agencies to assign specially trained officers or staffers to handle human trafficking cases. This ensures that when victims come into contact with law enforcement, they are met with the knowledge necessary to identify exploitation and respond effectively.

"Recognition is the first step toward safety. Human trafficking cases involve coercion, trauma responses, and complex victim-offender dynamics that differ significantly from other crimes. Without specific training, these indicators are frequently missed. A dedicated point-person brings the expertise to recognize the signs of all forms of trafficking, whether commercial sexual exploitation, labor trafficking, familial trafficking or third party, and the skills to respond in ways that do not retraumatize survivors or compromise investigations.

"The need for this bill is something our coalition knows firsthand. One survivor in our coalition was questioned on the curb in a Starbucks parking lot. Although she shared a detailed evidentiary report expressly identifying herself as a victim of labor trafficking, the officers did not record it as trafficking and did not believe her. Another survivor, a CSEC victim who had been trafficked by a family member, described interacting with multiple officers before encountering one who understood her trauma responses—the inconsistencies in her story, her reluctance to name her trafficker—as symptoms of exploitation rather than signs of dishonesty. Specialized training made the difference between an investigation that moved forward and one that would have ended before it began.

"AB 2720 invests in the expertise our communities need and our survivors deserve."

### **Arguments in Opposition**

None submitted.

## **FISCAL COMMENTS**

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, "Potentially minor reimbursable state-mandated local program costs (General Fund) for local law enforcement agencies to designate coordinators and establish required website postings. Actual reimbursement is contingent on Commission on State Mandates determination."

## **VOTES**

### **ASM PUBLIC SAFETY: 9-0-0**

**YES:** Schultz, Alanis, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Lackey, Nguyen, Ramos, Sharp-Collins

**ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 11-0-4**

**YES:** Wicks, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Hoover, Dixon, Ta, Tangipa

**UPDATED**

VERSION: May 18, 2026

CONSULTANT: Mary Kennedy / PUB. S. / (916) 319-3744

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