

Date of Hearing: August 5, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

SB 1022 (Valladares) – As Amended June 15, 2026

Policy Committee: Public Safety

Vote: 9 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

Establishes the California Multidisciplinary Alliance to Stop Trafficking Act (California MAST) task force to review collaborative models between governmental and nongovernmental organizations for protecting victims and survivors of trafficking, among other related duties.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Establishes a 25-member task force, staffed and supported by the Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to the extent that resources are available, with the first meeting held no later than July 1, 2027.
- 2) Requires the task force to prepare recommendations on the cost of conducting a statewide human trafficking prevalence study, the best entity to conduct the study, and how often the study should be conducted.
- 3) Requires the task force to meet at least four times and to report findings and recommendations to Cal OES, the Governor, the Attorney General, and the Legislature on or before January 1, 2029, and annually thereafter.
- 4) Authorizes reimbursement of appointees' actual and necessary expenses of participation with approval of the appointing authority.

FISCAL EFFECT:

- 1) Ongoing General Fund (GF) costs of \$289,000 annually to Cal OES for one position and travel expenses to staff and support the task force. Because the task force is established only upon appropriation by the Legislature, these costs are contingent on a future budget action.
- 2) Potential future GF cost pressures of an unknown, but potentially significant amount, to conduct a statewide human trafficking prevalence study. This bill requires the task force only to prepare recommendations on the cost, appropriate entity to conduct the study, and frequency of such a study; any costs to actually conduct the study would be contingent on future legislative or budget action.
- 3) Minor and absorbable costs to the Department of Justice and other member state agencies to participate in task force meetings, as participation falls within baseline operations and expense reimbursement is discretionary with the approval of the appointing authority.

COMMENTS:1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

Senate Bill 1022 establishes the California multidisciplinary Alliance to Stop Trafficking (MAST) Task Force. The Task Force is designed to strengthen the state's response to human trafficking by bringing together state agencies, local partners, service providers, and survivors to review current policies, identify gaps, and provide recommendations for coordinated, survivor-informed policies to prevent trafficking, support victims, and address prosecution.

- 2) **Background.** California has a two-decade history with anti-trafficking task forces. SB 180 (Kuehl), Chapter 239, Statutes of 2005, established the California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery (California ACTS) Task Force, which published its final report in October 2007 and was later repealed. In 2019, the Legislature passed SB 35 (Chang) to reestablish the California ACTS Task Force, but Governor Newsom vetoed the bill, stating in his veto message that any new or reconstituted task force should be considered and evaluated through the budget process, not stand-alone legislation. AB 2553 (Grayson), of the 2021-2022 Legislative Session, was substantially similar to this bill and died in the Senate Appropriations Committee. This bill's task force would be composed of 25 members, including state agency heads or their designees, representatives of prosecutors, public defenders, tribal organizations, service providers, researchers, and survivors of labor, sex, and familial trafficking. Members serve at the pleasure of the respective appointing authority.
- 3) **Support and Opposition.** This bill is sponsored by the California Survivor Coalition and supported by numerous law enforcement associations and the Little Hoover Commission. Supporters argue California's anti-trafficking response is fragmented across agencies and jurisdictions, and a statewide multidisciplinary task force would close service gaps and strengthen coordination. Opponents, including DecrimSexWorkCA and the Erotic Service Providers Legal, Education, and Research Project, argue similar task forces conflate sex work with human trafficking and produce carceral policy recommendations while non-carceral survivor services remain underfunded.
- 4) **Related Legislation.** SB 1027 (Strickland), of this legislative session, creates the California Street Prostitution Issues and Options Task Force. SB 1027 was held on the Senate Appropriation suspense file.

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