

HB653 INTRODUCED



1 HB653
2 QN6BE54-1
3 By Representative Barnes
4 RFD: Judiciary
5 First Read: 31-Mar-26



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, human trafficking in the first degree is punishable as a Class A felony. If the offense involves a minor trafficking victim, the defendant is required to be sentenced to a minimum of life imprisonment.

This bill would further provide for the criminal penalty by providing that if the victim was subjected to sexual servitude, the defendant must be sentenced to life imprisonment.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to human trafficking; to amend Section 13A-6-152, Code of Alabama 1975, to establish a minimum sentence for the crime of human trafficking in the first degree when the victim is subjected to sexual servitude.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 13A-6-152, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§13A-6-152

(a) A person commits the crime of human trafficking in



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29 the first degree if:

30 (1) He or she knowingly subjects another ~~person~~
31 individual to labor servitude or sexual servitude;

32 (2) He or she knowingly obtains, recruits, entices,
33 solicits, induces, threatens, isolates, harbors, holds,
34 restrains, transports, provides, or maintains any minor for
35 the purpose of causing a minor to engage in sexual servitude;
36 or

37 (3) He or she knowingly gives, or attempts to give,
38 monetary consideration or any other thing of value to engage
39 in any sexual conduct with a minor or an individual he or she
40 believes to be a minor.

41 (b) For purposes of this section, it is not required
42 that the defendant have knowledge of a minor victim's age, nor
43 is reasonable mistake of age a defense to liability under this
44 section.

45 (c) A corporation, or any other legal entity other than
46 an individual, may be prosecuted for human trafficking in the
47 first degree for an act or omission only if an agent of the
48 corporation or entity performs the conduct which is an element
49 of the crime while acting within the scope of his or her
50 office or employment and on behalf of the corporation or
51 entity, and the commission of the crime was either authorized,
52 requested, commanded, performed, or within the scope of the
53 person's employment on behalf of the corporation or entity or
54 constituted a pattern of conduct that an agent of the
55 corporation or entity knew or should have known was occurring.

56 (d) Any person who obstructs, or attempts to obstruct,



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57 or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of
58 this section shall be guilty of a Class A felony.

59 (e) Human trafficking in the first degree is a Class A
60 felony. In any prosecution under this section where the victim
61 was subjected to sexual servitude or in any prosecution under
62 this section where the defendant is ~~nineteen~~ 19 years ~~old~~ of
63 age or older and there is a minor trafficking victim, the
64 court shall sentence the defendant to a minimum of life
65 imprisonment."

66 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
67 1, 2026.