



Fact Sheet: Strategies to Combat Labor Trafficking and Support Survivors

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The Little Hoover Commission released three reports in 2020 reviewing the state's response to labor trafficking, a horrific form of modern slavery. The Commission believes California must take stronger actions to detect this crime, help victims, and prosecute perpetrators.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: COORDINATING A CALIFORNIA RESPONSE

California's efforts to combat human trafficking have focused principally on sex trafficking rather than labor trafficking, and no coordinated strategy exists to target this crime statewide. We [recommend](#) California create an Anti-Human Trafficking Council within the Governor's Office to:

- Build and enhance collaboration among communities throughout the state.
- Study and improve services for victims and survivors of all forms of human trafficking.
- Assist in the successful prosecution of human traffickers.

LABOR TRAFFICKING: STRATEGIES TO UNCOVER THIS HIDDEN CRIME

Numerous obstacles hinder efforts to identify labor trafficking cases in the state, leaving untold numbers of victims trapped in oppressive situations. We [recommend](#) California increase efforts to identify this crime:

- Train officials most likely to encounter labor trafficking to serve as first identifiers.
- Increase awareness through outreach campaigns and expanded training opportunities.
- Study ways to improve enforcement of the Transparency in Supply Chain Act of 2010.
- Update laws protecting child sex trafficking victims to include child labor trafficking victims.

LABOR TRAFFICKING: STRATEGIES TO HELP VICTIMS AND BRING TRAFFICKERS TO JUSTICE

Barriers to care make it difficult for labor trafficking survivors to access the help they need, while cases bringing their traffickers to justice remain rare. We [propose](#) California implement the following to better protect victims and bring traffickers to justice:

- Prioritize victim services through increased use of data and program evaluations.
- Empower more state agencies to investigate labor trafficking crimes.
- Standardize communication among federal, state, and local agencies.
- Track enforcement activities and study outcomes to identify best practices.
- Ensure officials are adequately trained to investigate and prosecute labor trafficking cases.

SUPPORTED LEGISLATION

- [AB 1661 \(Davies\), Chapter 106, Statutes of 2022](#): Requires hair, nail, and related businesses to post a notice publicizing human trafficking helplines.
- [SB 584 \(Jones\), Chapter 548, Statutes of 2021](#): Requires foster families to receive training about child labor trafficking.
- [AB 1820 \(Arambula\), 2022](#): Would have established a state-level unit to investigate and prosecute complaints alleging labor trafficking.
- [AB 2553 \(Grayson et al.\), 2022](#): Would have established a human trafficking task force to, among other things, evaluate the state's progress on this issue.
- [AB 2628 \(Reyes\), 2022](#): Would have revised a state program that addresses commercially sexually exploited children to include all children who are victims of human trafficking.

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