

2026 Lobby Days

Talking Points for Assembly Bill 1766

Human Trafficking Prevention Education
Author: Assemblymember Maggy Krell

(AAUW California Sponsored)

- AAUW California a cosponsor of AB 1766 by Assemblymember Maggy Krell..
- Human trafficking is a local, state, national and global crisis which impacts men, women and children of all ages. However, children are increasingly the target for sex and labor trafficking and online exploitation circles. While they often target vulnerable populations, no socioeconomic group or student demographic is immune to the threat of human traffickers. Cases of child exploitation, including trafficking, are found in every area of the country—rural, suburban, and urban settings—and involve economically and demographically diverse groups of children spanning from early childhood through adolescence.
- Current law requires age-appropriate education on human trafficking for students in grades 7 – 12, however we know that children younger than 12 are often vulnerable targets for human traffickers. And recent research shows that the average age of exploitation is getting even younger for minors. We also know that new forms of digital exploitation are often overlooked by educators.
- When school professionals have appropriate training,¹ schools are an institution well-positioned to identify, and report suspected trafficking and connect affected students to critical services. As education at an early grade level with face-to-face instruction remains vital, schools are also uniquely positioned to be a critical source of information about what human trafficking is and how children can identify and reject exploitation by adults.
- AB 1766 would require the Instructional Quality Commission to consider the inclusion of **developmentally appropriate** human trafficking and exploitation lessons for grades K-12 on the following subject matter:
 - How to prevent human trafficking, including online exploitation and intrafamilial exploitation risks.
 - Help-seeking strategies, healthy boundaries, healthy relationships, and bodily autonomy.
 - How to stay safe from sexually exploitative materials and online deepfakes.
 - How to recognize and report concerning behaviors.
- The bill also expands evidence-based training requirements for key staff to better identify human trafficking and exploitation signs and online risks, and to ensure proper interventions and reporting in suspected human trafficking and exploitation cases.

We respectfully ask for your “Yes” vote on AB 1766

¹ Matthew Baker, Kaitlin M.H. Winks, Corey J. Rood, Jodi A. Quas, and Shanna Williams, “Improving the value of school professionals as partners in efforts to enhance recognition of and responses to youth sex trafficking,” *Psychology in the Schools*, no. 64 (2024): DOI: 10.1002/pits.23250