

SUMMARY

This bill expands post-secondary institutions' Title IX implementation in California to include human trafficking.

BACKGROUND

In 1972, Title IX was federally enacted to prohibit sex-based discrimination, like sexual harassment or sexual violence, in any education program receiving federal funds. While human trafficking and sexual exploitation through online platforms, social networks, recruitment or coercive relationship constitute severe forms of gender-based violations under Title IX, existing law does not require the inclusion of human trafficking in campus training and protocols.

Victims of human trafficking can be of any age, sex, race, ethnicity, immigration status or socioeconomic class. College students can be vulnerable to environmental risk factors such as housing instability, lack of social or familial support, or naivety to exploitive situations. Traffickers may recruit students on campus, at off campus parties, online or at local bars. A [study](#) conducted among college students on 12 Southern California campuses found that 42% of students reported having known someone who sold sex or was trafficked as a college student.

It is critical for higher education institutions, students, faculty and staff to recognize the potential risks, behavior, response measures, and indicators for human trafficking. Expanding existing strategies to prevent human trafficking recruitment is vital to protecting the safety of college students.

BILL DETAILS

AB 1845 requires post-secondary institutions to:

- Update their sexual harassment training for employees to include human trafficking and require employees to receive training annually.
- Ensure campus officials include human trafficking related crimes when compiling records of crimes on campus.
- Construct written agreements with law enforcement clarifying human trafficking investigation responsibilities.
- Adopt a policy concerning incidents of human trafficking, a statement that trafficking is a state and federal crime and physical signs that may indicate trafficking is occurring.

SUPPORT

3Strands Global Foundation (Co-Sponsor)
American Association of University of Women of California (Co-Sponsor)
California Survivor Coalition (Co-Sponsor)
Journey Out

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