

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3562

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 12, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblyman TIM EUSTACE**

**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywomen Jimenez, Chaparro, Assemblymen Holley, McGuckin and Karabinchak**

**SYNOPSIS**

Expands duties of Commission on Human Trafficking to include studying connection between human trafficking and illicit massage parlor businesses.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/14/2019)**

A3562 VAINIERI HUTTLE, EUSTACE

2

1 AN ACT concerning human trafficking and amending and  
2 supplementing P.L.2013, c.51.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. (New section) The Legislature finds and declares that:

8 a. The Polaris Project issued a report in 2018 entitled “Human  
9 Trafficking in Illicit Massage Businesses.”

10 b. Information for the report was gathered from various sources  
11 including published reports, law enforcement, interviews with  
12 victims and cases reported to the National Human Trafficking  
13 Hotline;

14 c. New Jersey has proximity to New York and the I-95 corridor  
15 which runs along the Eastern Seaboard and may be a thoroughfare  
16 for moving trafficking victims;

17 d. Press reports indicate the Polaris Project has identified  
18 allegedly illegal massage parlors offering sexual services in this  
19 State;

20 e. New Jersey has an existing commission known as the  
21 Commission on Human Trafficking which is created in the Division  
22 of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety;

23 f. It is fitting and appropriate to charge this body with further  
24 study on this issue within New Jersey.

25

26 2. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237) is amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 1. a. There is hereby created, in the Division of Criminal  
29 Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, a commission  
30 to be known as the Commission on Human Trafficking, consisting  
31 of 15 members as follows: the Attorney General, or his designee;  
32 the Commissioner of Children and Families, or his designee; the  
33 Commissioner of Human Services, or his designee; a county  
34 prosecutor, appointed by the Governor based upon the  
35 recommendation of the County Prosecutors Association of the State  
36 of New Jersey; one member of the New Jersey Human Trafficking  
37 Task Force established within the Department of Law and Public  
38 Safety, designated by the Attorney General; two public members  
39 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the  
40 Senate President, one representing law enforcement and one  
41 representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member  
42 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the  
43 Senate Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health care  
44 facility or mental health services; two public members appointed by

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 the Governor based upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the  
2 General Assembly, one representing law enforcement and one  
3 representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member  
4 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the  
5 Assembly Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health  
6 care facility or mental health services; and four public members  
7 appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a representative  
8 of a child advocacy organization concerning missing, abducted, or  
9 exploited children, and one of whom shall be a human trafficking  
10 survivor. All public members shall have experience with, possess a  
11 background in, or demonstrate a specialized knowledge of, the  
12 legal, policy, educational, social, or psychological aspects of human  
13 trafficking.

14 b. (1) Of the public members first appointed:

15 (a) the following shall serve for a term of three years: one  
16 member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate  
17 President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the  
18 Speaker of the General Assembly; and two members appointed by  
19 the Governor; and

20 (b) the following shall serve for a term of two years: one  
21 member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate  
22 President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the  
23 Speaker of the General Assembly; each member appointed upon the  
24 recommendation of the Senate and Assembly Minority Leaders; and  
25 two members appointed by the Governor.

26 (c) Upon the conclusion of the initial terms, each public member  
27 shall be appointed for a term of three years.

28 (2) Each member appointed shall hold office for the term of  
29 appointment and until a successor shall have been appointed and  
30 qualified.

31 (3) Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be  
32 filled by appointment in the same manner as the original  
33 appointment was made.

34 c. (1) The commission shall organize upon the appointment of  
35 a majority of its authorized membership. The members shall elect  
36 one of the members to serve as chair and vice-chair, and the chair  
37 may appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the  
38 commission.

39 (2) The commission shall meet at those times and places within  
40 the State of New Jersey as the commission shall determine. A  
41 majority of the commission's authorized membership shall  
42 constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business, for the  
43 performance of any duty, or for the exercise of any power of the  
44 commission.

45 d. The members of the commission shall serve without  
46 compensation, but shall be eligible for reimbursement for necessary  
47 and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their

1 official duties within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise  
2 made available to the commission for its purposes.

3 e. The Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law  
4 and Public Safety shall, at the direction of the Attorney General,  
5 provide legal, stenographic, technical, clerical, and other staff and  
6 resource assistance to the commission, and additionally the  
7 commission may incur expenses as may be necessary in order to  
8 perform its duties within the limits of funds appropriated or  
9 otherwise made available to it for its purposes.

10 f. It shall be the duty of the commission to:

11 (1) Evaluate the existing law concerning human trafficking and  
12 the enforcement thereof, study the connection between human  
13 trafficking and illicit massage parlor businesses, and to make  
14 recommendations for legislation, if appropriate;

15 (2) Review existing victim assistance programs and analyze the  
16 costs, organization, and availability of these services for victims of  
17 human trafficking and to make recommendations for legislation, if  
18 appropriate;

19 (3) Promote a coordinated response by public and private  
20 resources for victims of human trafficking; and

21 (4) Develop mechanisms to promote public awareness of human  
22 trafficking, including promotion of the national, 24-hour toll-free  
23 hotline telephone service on human trafficking described under  
24 section 18 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-11), and the promotion of  
25 training courses and other educational materials for use by persons  
26 required under section 19 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-12) to  
27 undergo training on the handling of and response procedures for  
28 suspected human trafficking activities.

29 g. The commission shall report annually to the Governor and to  
30 the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-  
31 19.1), its activities, as well as its findings and recommendations for  
32 any needed new services or resources for victims of human  
33 trafficking, and any proposed changes to the current law concerning  
34 human trafficking.

35 (cf: P.L.2013, c.51, s.1)

36

37 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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42 This bill would expand the duty of the Commission on Human  
43 Trafficking, created by P.L.2013, c.51, to include studying the  
44 connection between human trafficking and illicit massage parlor  
45 businesses. A published report by the Polaris Project, a group  
46 advocating on behalf of trafficking victims, indicates that massage  
47 parlors, including legitimate ones, may be contributing significantly  
48 to human trafficking trade in New Jersey.