## ASSEMBLY, No. 476

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

#### Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY
District 7 (Burlington)
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District 31 (Hudson)

#### Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblywomen Timberlake and Pintor Marin** 

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Requires DCA, in consultation with Commission on Human Trafficking, to establish Statewide initiative for Red Sand Project.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Homeland Security and State Preparedness Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/30/2023)

AN ACT concerning human trafficking and amending P.L.2013, c.121 and supplementing Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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- 1. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.121 (C.52:17B-237) is amended to read as follows:
- 9 1. a. There is hereby created, in the Division of Criminal 10 Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, a commission 11 to be known as the Commission on Human Trafficking, consisting 12 of 15 members as follows: the Attorney General, or his designee; 13 the Commissioner of Children and Families, or his designee; the 14 Commissioner of Human Services, or his designee; a county 15 prosecutor, appointed by the Governor based upon 16 recommendation of the County Prosecutors Association of the State 17 of New Jersey; one member of the New Jersey Human Trafficking 18 Task Force established within the Department of Law and Public 19 Safety, designated by the Attorney General; two public members 20 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the 21 Senate President, one representing law enforcement and one 22 representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member 23 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the 24 Senate Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health care 25 facility or mental health services; two public members appointed by 26 the Governor based upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the 27 General Assembly, one representing law enforcement and one 28 representing a victim's assistance organization; one public member 29 appointed by the Governor based upon the recommendation of the 30 Assembly Minority Leader representing either a non-profit health 31 care facility or mental health services; and four public members 32 appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a representative 33 of a child advocacy organization concerning missing, abducted, or 34 exploited children, and one of whom shall be a human trafficking 35 survivor. All public members shall have experience with, possess a 36 background in, or demonstrate a specialized knowledge of, the 37 legal, policy, educational, social, or psychological aspects of human 38 trafficking.
  - b. (1) Of the public members first appointed:
- 40 (a) the following shall serve for a term of three years: one 41 member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate 42 President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the 43 Speaker of the General Assembly; and two members appointed by 44 the Governor; and

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

- 1 (b) the following shall serve for a term of two years: one
  2 member appointed upon the recommendation of the Senate
  3 President; one member appointed upon the recommendation of the
  4 Speaker of the General Assembly; each member appointed upon the
  5 recommendation of the Senate and Assembly Minority Leaders; and
  6 two members appointed by the Governor.
  - (c) Upon the conclusion of the initial terms, each public member shall be appointed for a term of three years.

- (2) Each member appointed shall hold office for the term of appointment and until a successor shall have been appointed and qualified.
- (3) Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be filled by appointment in the same manner as the original appointment was made.
- c. (1) The commission shall organize upon the appointment of a majority of its authorized membership. The members shall elect one of the members to serve as chair and vice-chair, and the chair may appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the commission.
- (2) The commission shall meet at those times and places within the State of New Jersey as the commission shall determine. A majority of the commission's authorized membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business, for the performance of any duty, or for the exercise of any power of the commission.
- d. The members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but shall be eligible for reimbursement for necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the commission for its purposes.
- e. The Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety shall, at the direction of the Attorney General, provide legal, stenographic, technical, clerical, and other staff and resource assistance to the commission, and additionally the commission may incur expenses as may be necessary in order to perform its duties within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to it for its purposes.
  - f. It shall be the duty of the commission to:
- (1) Evaluate the existing law concerning human trafficking and the enforcement thereof, and to make recommendations for legislation, if appropriate;
- (2) Review existing victim assistance programs and analyze the costs, organization, and availability of these services for victims of human trafficking and to make recommendations for legislation, if appropriate;
- 46 (3) Promote a coordinated response by public and private resources for victims of human trafficking; and

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- (4) Develop mechanisms to promote public awareness of human trafficking, including promotion of the national, 24-hour toll-free hotline telephone service on human trafficking described under section 18 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-11) and other initiatives, including, but not limited to, the Red Sand Project set forth in P.L., c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), and the promotion of training courses and other educational materials for use by persons required under section 19 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.2C:13-12) to undergo training on the handling of and response procedures for suspected human trafficking activities.
  - g. The commission shall report annually to the Governor and to the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), its activities, as well as its findings and recommendations for any needed new services or resources for victims of human trafficking, and any proposed changes to the current law concerning human trafficking.

(cf: P.L.2021, c.3, s.1)

- 2. (New section) a. The Department of Community Affairs shall, in consultation with the Commission on Human Trafficking established by section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), establish a Statewide initiative for the Red Sand Project, which shall coincide with Human Trafficking Prevention Month.
- b. Pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2013, c.51(C.52:17B-238), the Attorney General, in consultation with the Commission on Human Trafficking established by section 1 of P.L.2013, c.51 (C.52:17B-237), may provide for the expenditures of monies from the "Human Trafficking Survivor's Assistance Fund" to assist with the Red Sand Project Initiative.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.