

SB 262-FN - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

2025 SESSION

25-1138

09/05

SENATE BILL

262-FN

AN ACT

relative to the penalty for trafficking in persons under 18 years of age.

SPONSORS:

Sen. Sullivan, Dist 18; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16; Rep. Noble, Hills. 2; Rep. Mazur, Hills. 44; Rep. Prudhomme-O'Brien, Rock. 13; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 7

COMMITTEE:

Judiciary

ANALYSIS

This bill increases the penalty for certain offenses involving the trafficking of persons under 18 years of age to 18 years to life imprisonment.

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT relative to the penalty for trafficking in persons under 18 years of age.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Trafficking in Persons; Penalty. Amend RSA 633:7, II and III to read as follows:

2 II. A person shall be guilty of a class A felony if such person maintains or makes available
3 an individual under 18 years of age for the purpose of engaging the individual in a commercial sex
4 act or sexually-explicit performance for the benefit of another. A person convicted under this
5 paragraph shall be sentenced to a minimum term of imprisonment of not less than [7] **18** years and a
6 maximum term of not more than [30-years] **life imprisonment**. Knowledge of the individual's
7 actual age shall not be required as an element of this offense. Consent of the individual shall not
8 constitute a defense to a charge under this paragraph.

9 III. It is a class A felony to recruit, entice, harbor, transport, provide, obtain, or otherwise
10 make available a person, knowing or believing it likely that the person will be subjected to
11 trafficking as defined in paragraph I or II. Notwithstanding RSA 651:2, a person convicted of an
12 offense under this paragraph involving a victim under the age of 18 shall be subject to a minimum
13 term of not less than [7] **18** years and a maximum term of not more than [30-years] **life**
14 **imprisonment**, if the offender knew or believed it likely that the victim would be involved in a
15 commercial sex act or sexually-explicit performance.

16 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

**SB 262-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to the penalty for trafficking in persons under 18 years of age.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Estimated State Impact				
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Revenue Fund</i>	None			
Expenditures*	Indeterminable			
<i>Funding Source</i>	General Fund			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source</i>	None			

*Expenditure = Cost of bill

*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill

Estimated Political Subdivision Impact				
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
County Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
County Expenditures	Indeterminable			
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditures	Indeterminable			

METHODOLOGY:

This bill adds, deletes, or modifies a criminal penalty, or changes statute to which there is a penalty for violation. Therefore, this bill may have an impact on the judicial and correctional systems, which could affect prosecution, incarceration, probation, and parole costs, for the state, as well as county and local governments. A summary of such costs can be found at: https://gencourt.state.nh.us/lba/Budget/Fiscal_Notes/JudicialCorrectionalCosts.pdf

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Judicial Branch, Judicial Council, Department of Justice, Department of Corrections, New Hampshire Association of Counties, and New Hampshire Municipal Association