



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

GEORGE GASCÓN • District Attorney
JOSEPH F. INIGUEZ • Chief Deputy District Attorney

DANIEL FELIZZATTO • Legislative Advocate
TAMAR TOKAT • Legislative Advocate

June 13, 2024

The Honorable Aisha Wahab
Senate Public Safety Committee, Chair
1020 N Street, Room 545
Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 1832 (B. RUBIO)
SUPPORT
Senate Public Safety Committee
Hearing Date: June 18, 2024

Dear Senator Wahab:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1832 (Blanca Rubio).

AB 1832 establishes the Labor Trafficking Unit (LTU) within the Civil Rights Department (CRD) and requires the LTU to coordinate with the Labor Enforcement Task Force (LETF), the DOJ, and the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE).

Labor trafficking involves the recruitment, harboring, or transportation of a person for labor services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. It is a modern-day form of slavery and a fundamental violation of human rights.

In 2020 the Little Hoover Commission released three reports reviewing the state's response to labor trafficking. The Commission noted that state efforts to combat human trafficking have focused mainly on sex trafficking. In the second report, Labor Trafficking: Strategies to Uncover this Hidden Crime, the Commission found that while several state agencies play a role in combatting human trafficking, there is no coordinated strategy to target the crime statewide. No state agency has a mandate to look for labor trafficking and government agencies are siloed. The Commission noted that while issues related to labor exploitation in California fall under the jurisdiction of the DIR, the agency does not proactively look for labor trafficking cases, in part because it does not have the authority to investigate labor trafficking cases. However, members of the Labor Enforcement Task Force – a multi-agency effort led by DIR to combat the underground economy – have observed signs of potential trafficking during inspections or received labor trafficking complaints and made nearly close to one dozen referrals of potential cases to the Department of Justice to investigate.

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Labor traffickers purposefully prey on vulnerable communities such as immigrants, undocumented or formerly incarcerated individuals, low-income workers, and people of color.

AB 1832 will position the state to take a coordinated approach to the prevention and investigation of labor trafficking while working to protect these survivors from criminalization by informing them of their rights and connecting them to appropriate social and legal services.

For these reasons, our Office is pleased to support AB 1832.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Daniel Felizzatto in my Sacramento Legislative Office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gascón", written in a cursive style.

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

cc: Assembly Member Rubio
Eric Csizmar, Senate Republican Caucus