

Sixty-first  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**SENATE BILL NO. 2209**

Introduced by

Senators Dever, Miller, Nelson

Representatives Dahl, Delmore, Hawken

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new chapter to title 12.1 of the North Dakota Century  
2 Code, relating to human trafficking; to amend and reenact subdivision f of subsection 2 of  
3 section 12.1-06.1-01 and subdivisions a and e of subsection 1 of section 12.1-32-15 of the  
4 North Dakota Century Code, relating to racketeering definitions and registration of offenders  
5 against children and sexual offenders; and to provide a penalty.

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

7 **SECTION 1.** A new chapter to title 12.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
8 and enacted as follows:

9 **Human trafficking - Penalty.**

- 10 1. A person is guilty of human trafficking if the person:
- 11 a. Benefits financially or receives anything of value from knowing participation in
- 12 human trafficking; or
- 13 b. Promotes, recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, or obtains by any
- 14 means, or attempts to promote, recruit, entice, harbor, transport, provide, or
- 15 obtain by any means, another person, knowing that the person will be subject
- 16 to human trafficking.
- 17 2. An offense under this section is a class A felony if the person subject to human
- 18 trafficking is less than eighteen years of age. Otherwise, the offense is a class B
- 19 felony.
- 20 3. If the person subject to human trafficking is under the age of eighteen years, it is
- 21 no defense that the actor did not know the child's age or reasonably believed the
- 22 child to be eighteen years of age or older.

23 **Definitions.** In this chapter:

- 1           1. "Debt bondage" means the status or condition of a debtor arising from a pledge by  
2           the debtor of the debtor's personal services or those of a person under the debtor's  
3           control as a security for debt, if the value of those services as reasonably assessed  
4           is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those  
5           services are not respectively limited and defined.
- 6           2. "Forced labor or services" means labor or services that are performed or provided  
7           by another person and are obtained or maintained through an actor's;  
8           a. Threat, either implicit or explicit, scheme, plan, or pattern, or other action  
9           intended to cause a person to believe that, if the person did not perform or  
10           provide the labor or services:  
11           (1) That person or another person would suffer bodily harm or physical  
12           restraint; or  
13           (2) That any fact or alleged fact tending to cause shame or to subject any  
14           person to hatred, contempt, or ridicule would be exposed;  
15           b. Physically restraining or threatening to physically restrain a person;  
16           c. Abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process; or  
17           d. Knowingly destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or possessing any  
18           actual or purported passport or other immigration document, or any other  
19           actual or purported government identification document, of another person.  
20           "Forced labor or services" does not mean labor or services required to be  
21           performed by a person in compliance with a court order or as a required condition  
22           of probation, parole, or imprisonment.
- 23           3. "Human trafficking" means labor trafficking or sex trafficking.
- 24           4. "Labor trafficking" means the promotion, recruitment, transportation, transfer,  
25           harboring, enticement, provision, obtaining, or receipt of a person by any means,  
26           whether a United States citizen or foreign national, for the purpose of:  
27           a. Debt bondage or forced labor or services;  
28           b. Slavery or practices similar to slavery; or  
29           c. The removal of organs through the use of coercion or intimidation.

- 1           5.   "Sex trafficking" means the promotion, recruitment, transportation, transfer,  
2                   harboring, enticement, provision, obtaining, or receipt of a person by any means,  
3                   whether a United States citizen or foreign national, for the purpose of:  
4           a.   Causing the person or another to engage in sexual acts or sexual conduct in  
5                   violation of chapter 12.1-20; or  
6           b.   Violating chapter 12.1-27.1, 12.1-27.2, or 12.1-29.

7           **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision f of subsection 2 of section 12.1-06.1-01 of  
8 the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 9           f.   "Racketeering" means any act including any criminal attempt, facilitation,  
10                   solicitation, or conspiracy, committed for financial gain, which is chargeable or  
11                   indictable under the laws of the state in which the act occurred and, if the act  
12                   occurred in a state other than this state, would be chargeable or indictable  
13                   under the laws of this state had the act occurred in this state and punishable  
14                   by imprisonment for more than one year, regardless of whether such act is  
15                   charged or indicted, involving:  
16                   (1)   Homicide.  
17                   (2)   Robbery.  
18                   (3)   Kidnapping.  
19                   (4)   Forgery.  
20                   (5)   Theft.  
21                   (6)   Bribery.  
22                   (7)   Gambling.  
23                   (8)   Usury.  
24                   (9)   Extortion.  
25                   (10)  Unlawful delivery of controlled substances.  
26                   (11)  Trafficking in explosives, weapons, or stolen property.  
27                   (12)  Leading a criminal association.  
28                   (13)  Obstructing or hindering criminal investigations or prosecutions.  
29                   (14)  Asserting false claims including, but not limited to, false claims asserted  
30                   through fraud or arson.  
31                   (15)  Fraud.

(16) Sale of unregistered securities or real property securities and transactions involving such securities by unregistered dealers or salesmen.

(17) Obscenity.

(18) Child pornography.

(19) Prostitution.

(20) Human trafficking.

**SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Subdivisions a and e of subsection 1 of section 12.1-32-15 of the North Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

a. "A crime against a child" means a violation of chapter 12.1-16, section 12.1-17-01.1 if the victim is under the age of twelve, 12.1-17-02, 12.1-17-04, subdivision a of subsection 6 of section 12.1-17-07.1, section 12.1-18-01, 12.1-18-02, 12.1-18-05, chapter 12.1-29, or subdivision a of subsection 1 or subsection 2 of section 14-09-22, labor trafficking in violation of section 1 of this Act, or an equivalent offense from another court in the United States, a tribal court, or court of another country, in which the victim is a minor or is otherwise of the age required for the act to be a crime or an attempt to commit these offenses.

e. "Sexual offender" means a person who has pled guilty to or been found guilty, including juvenile delinquent adjudications, of a violation of section 12.1-20-03, 12.1-20-03.1, 12.1-20-04, 12.1-20-05, 12.1-20-05.1, 12.1-20-06, 12.1-20-07 except for subdivision a, 12.1-20-11, 12.1-20-12.1, or 12.1-20-12.2, chapter 12.1-27.2, or subsection 2 of section 12.1-22-03.1, sex trafficking in violation of section 1 of this Act, or an equivalent offense from another court in the United States, a tribal court, or court of another country, or an attempt to commit these offenses.