

Stacy Schaffer ~ Executive Director, 31:8 Project
318project.org
schaffer@318project.org
701.321.1061



In support of Senate Bill 2220

Chairwoman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Stacy Schaffer, and I am the Founder and Executive Director of 31:8 Project, a Bismarck-based nonprofit dedicated to equipping and challenging society to proactively address human trafficking through education, advocacy, and awareness. I launched the nonprofit in 2015 but have been working in the anti-human trafficking field since 2006. 31:8 Project's work is accomplished through program areas including education, running the statewide Demand Reduction Program and human trafficking survivor mentorship. In 2024, we were privileged to provide services to over 60 survivors of human trafficking, 85% of whom were trafficked within North Dakota. Additionally, we delivered nearly 170 presentations statewide to a diverse range of audiences, including law enforcement, schools, healthcare providers, and community organizations. This year, we will host our *5th Annual Bakken Human Trafficking Summit* in Bismarck, with the goal of educating over 400 professionals and community members, including law enforcement and attorneys.

Regarding this bill, the two sectors that victims of human trafficking typically come into contact with while being trafficked is law enforcement and medical. Although it is important that all people be educated when it comes to the topic of human trafficking. I do believe it is important that law enforcement officers and state's attorneys receive this additional education as it is a crime that often goes unnoticed and can be difficult to detect if you are not educated on what to look for in these cases. Thank you all for your time. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.