

2019

REPORT TO THE
GOVERNOR AND
LEGISLATURE

Michigan
Human Trafficking
Commission



Commission Members

- Ms. Kelly Carter, Commission Chair; Assistant Attorney General
- Chief Chad Baugh, Canton Township Police Department
- Mr. Hassan Beydoun, Michigan House of Representatives
- Ms. Debi Cain, Michigan Division of Victim Services; Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board
- Ms. Judy Emmons, Office of Senator Rick Outman; Emmons Farms
- Ms. Fadowa Harrel, Clinical Social Worker
- Mr. David Leyton, Genesee County Prosecutor
- Ms. Deb Monroe, Recovery Concepts of Michigan
- Ms. Shari Montgomery, The House of Promise
- Ms. Elizabeth Moon Carter, The Salvation Army
- Mr. Forrest Pasanski, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
- Det/Lt Edward Price, Michigan State Police
- Hon. Michelle Rick, 29th Judicial Circuit Court
- Ms. Suzanna Shkreli, Office of the Governor

Message from the Attorney General:
Dana Nessel



Dear Reader:

Human trafficking is no longer a problem that only exists in other countries. Sadly, human trafficking, which includes both sex and labor trafficking exists right here in Michigan, in our own communities. We must take swift action to provide public awareness of this crime and develop initiatives to assist victims.

By statute, our office is required to house the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission and I am honored that we are able to work collaboratively with the Commission to fight for justice. I am incredibly proud of the Commission members who volunteer their time, and to my staff who contribute to this significant cause.

In early 2019, several new members were appointed to the Commission, including: Chief Chad Baugh, Debi Cain, Elizabeth Moon Carter, Judith Emmons, Fadowa Harrel, Shari Montgomery, Forrest Pasanski, and Suzanna Shkreli. These individuals have joined the six other sitting members to round out a group of extremely talented individuals who are dedicated to combatting this horrific crime. The Commission has made significant progress this year including:

- Providing human trafficking training to numerous groups and organizations;
- Collaborating with other human trafficking organizations to develop methods to obtain reliable data regarding the prevalence of human trafficking;
- Developing a human trafficking survivors' "listening tour"; and
- Recommending to the legislature a package of 30 human trafficking-related bills.

I look forward to working with the Commission to develop other initiatives in 2020 and I invite everyone in Michigan to take an active role to fight against human trafficking and assist survivors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Dana Nessel in blue ink. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dana Nessel
Attorney General, State of Michigan

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Background

The first Michigan Commission on Human Trafficking was launched in March, 2013. The Commission immediately began gathering information. Numerous experts gave presentations to the Commission, including those in law enforcement, health care, academia, non-profit organizations, and Attorneys General from other states. The Commission also heard heart-breaking survivor testimonies. That work resulted in a comprehensive package of bills that the Legislature enacted and was signed into law in 2014. The legislation included safe harbor provisions and stronger tools to hold traffickers accountable. It also created the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission, a standing commission within the Department of Attorney General. By statute, the Commission has five members designated by various state agencies and other organizations and nine members appointed by the Governor to represent various groups and officials. The Commission's mission as set forth in statute, Public Act 325 of 2014, includes the following:

Section 4(a). Identify sources for grants that will assist in examining and countering human trafficking in this state, and apply for those grants when appropriate.

Section 4(b). Fund research programs to determine the extent and nature of human trafficking in this state.

Section 4(c). Provide information and training regarding human trafficking to police officers, prosecutors, court personnel, health care providers, social services personnel, and other individuals the commission considers appropriate.

Section 4(d). Collect and analyze information regarding human trafficking in this state.

Section 4(e). Identify state and local agencies within this state and other states, as well as within the federal government, that are involved with issues related to human trafficking, and coordinate the dissemination of information regarding human trafficking in this state to those agencies.

Section 4(f). Review the existing services available to assist victims of human trafficking, including crime victim assistance, health care, and legal assistance, and establish a program to make those victims better aware of the services that are available to them.

Section 4(g). Establish a program to improve public awareness of human trafficking.

Section 4(h). Review state laws and administrative rules relating to human trafficking and make recommendations to the legislature to improve those laws and rules to address human trafficking violations in this state.

Commission Meetings

The Michigan Human Trafficking Commission met on the following dates during 2019:

- March 19, 2019
- June 4, 2019
- September 10, 2019
- December 10, 2019

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“In my first year as Attorney General, I have been impressed with the dedication of the Commission members and their progress in forming partnerships with victim advocates, law enforcement agencies, the legislature, and others. These partnerships are critical to eliminating human trafficking.”

Dana Nessel, Michigan Attorney General

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New Members

The Human Trafficking Commission welcomed several new members in 2019:

Chad Baugh, of Canton, is the Deputy Director of Police at the Canton Township Police Department. Chief Baugh represents law enforcement.

Hassan Beydoun, of West Bloomfield, is General Counsel for the Michigan House of Representatives. Mr. Beydoun was reappointed by the Governor from a list of individuals submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Debi Cain, of West Bloomfield, is the Executive Director of the Michigan Division of Victim Services and the Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board. Ms. Cain spent the first 15 years of her career as the founding executive director of HAVEN, a suburban Detroit area sexual assault and domestic violence agency. Ms. Cain then spent four years as the director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Ms. Cain has a Master of Science in Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Political Science.

Ms. Cain is a founding member of the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence and has served as a consultant, author, and/or editor for a number of articles, manuals, and publications related to violence against women and children. She has been involved in developing a training curriculum for judges, police, child welfare staff, prosecutors, welfare workers, and domestic violence and sexual assault program staff. Ms. Cain has received various awards for her work and dedication to the field. Ms. Cain is the designee of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Elizabeth Moon Carter, of Ferndale, is the Director of Social Services for The Salvation Army, Eastern Michigan Division. Ms. Moon Carter was appointed by the Governor from a list of individuals submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Judith K. Emmons, of Sheridan, is the Legislative District Director for Senator Rick Outman and owner/operator of Emmons Farms.

She is a former State Senator for the 33rd Senate District and former State Representative for the 70th House District. Ms. Emmons was appointed by the Governor from a list of individuals submitted by the Senate Majority Leader.

Fadowa Harrel, of Farmington Hills, is a human trafficking victim advocate. She earned her Master of Social Work in Mental Health and Chemical Dependency from Eastern Michigan University. Ms. Harrel was appointed to represent survivors.

Shari M. Montgomery, of Eaton Rapids, is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of The House of Promise in Lansing, a non-profit organization that helps sex trafficking survivors. Ms. Montgomery was appointed by the Governor from a list of individuals submitted by the Senate Majority Leader.

Forrest Pasanski, of East Lansing, is the Director of the Bureau of Professional Licensing's Enforcement Division within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA). He previously served as an Assistant Attorney General and, as a research assistant, helped to establish the Attorney General's Human Trafficking Unit. Mr. Pasanski earned bachelor's degrees in philosophy and political science from Grand Valley State University and a law degree from Michigan State University. He serves as the designee of the Director of LARA.

Edward Price, of Oak Park, is a Michigan State Police Detective Lieutenant in the Second District Special Investigation Section. Det. Lt. Price is assigned to the Southeast Michigan Crimes Against Children Task Force, an FBI Task Force that investigates the exploitation of children by means of sex trafficking. He is the FBI and U.S. Attorney's Office of Human Trafficking liaison for the Michigan State Police and is a member of the U.S. Eastern District of Michigan Project Safe Childhood Training Team. He serves as the designee of the Director of the Michigan State Police.

Suzanna Shkreli is Deputy Legal Counsel to Governor Gretchen Whitmer. She is designated as the Governor's representative on the Commission.

Subcommittee Overview

The Michigan Human Trafficking Commission operates with seven subcommittees:

Training and Education: This subcommittee is charged with reviewing existing training efforts for professionals and determining how those efforts can be enhanced and expanded. These professionals include various groups who may encounter human trafficking such as: law enforcement, health care providers, social-service providers, hospitality providers, and those in code enforcement and regulatory agencies.

Data Collection and Research: This subcommittee is charged with reviewing strategies to collect statewide data to enable policymakers and law enforcement to assess progress in their efforts to tackle this growing problem.

Victim Services: This subcommittee is charged with reviewing the needs of human trafficking survivors to determine how those needs can be met at the local and state levels.

Public Awareness: This subcommittee is charged with developing strategies to raise public awareness of human trafficking.

Policy and Legislation: This subcommittee is charged with reviewing Michigan's human trafficking laws and policies to determine whether new legislation or policy changes are required.

Courts/Summit: This subcommittee was established in October 2015. The subcommittee focuses on planning conferences and working cooperatively with Michigan courts on human trafficking issues.

Funding and Resources: This subcommittee is charged with identifying and applying for potential grants and other forms of funding.

Training and Education

Subcommittee Members:

Ms. Kelly Carter, Human Trafficking Commission Chair, Assistant Attorney General

Chief Chad Baugh, Canton Township Police Department

Mr. Forrest Pasanski, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Det/Lt Edward Price, Michigan State Police

Hon. Michelle Rick, 29th Judicial Circuit Court

The Commission Chair is regularly asked to provide training presentations to professional groups. In 2019, the Commission Chair:

- Participated in Michigan State Police sponsored training for law enforcement at the State Police Academy;
- Participated in law enforcement training in central west Michigan;
- Convened a training for casino and gaming professionals at the request of the Michigan Gaming Control Board;
- Participated in a conference for social work and law students at Wayne State University Law School;
- Participated in a conference sponsored by Truckers Against Trafficking for commercial drivers license holders and industry stakeholders;
- Delivered human trafficking training to several health care professional groups including: Beaumont Hospital, the Philippine Nurses Association of Michigan, Scheurer Hospital, Michigan Association of Family Physicians, and two separate groups of nephrology social workers; and
- Participated in a half-day training sponsored by the Michigan State Bar for attorneys interested in providing free legal services to victims and survivors of trafficking.

Last year, the Commission formed a partnership with Measurable Change, a collaboration between Andy Soper, a Michigan pioneer of human trafficking victim services, and Think Black, an integrated digital consulting, strategy and production firm. The goal of the partnership is to build a “platform for delivering high-quality educational content that’s tied to standardized data collection processes and systems in order to solve complex social issues.” The Measurable Change Partnership dovetails squarely with two areas of statutory responsibility for the Commission: training and data collection. Measurable Change made significant strides in developing its initial training product during 2019. The Commission continues to partner with Measurable Change and looks forward to continued collaboration, including how the geographical reach might be leveraged to focus additional training toward law enforcement.

Finally, the Commission continues to explore creating a shorter version of the healthcare video it previously produced and omitting the specifically health-focused content in order to create a more generally-targeted public awareness and training tool. Views of the video continue at an impressive pace, with the video being accessed by the general public 1,449 times during 2019, in addition to likely thousands of medical professionals who viewed the video through the Wayne State University Medical School website.

Data Collection and Research

Subcommittee Members:

Chief Chad Baugh, Canton Township Police Department

Ms. Elizabeth Moon Carter, The Salvation Army

Mr. Forrest Pasanski, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

The Data Collection Subcommittee focused on one primary initiative in 2019: developing for distribution a meaningful prosecutorial survey of human trafficking prosecutions.

Throughout 2019, the Subcommittee continued to work on a survey of all of Michigan county prosecutors. The survey will elicit information from county prosecutors about their experience with human trafficking cases which will give insight into the entire prosecutorial process from investigative presentment by police officers to preliminary examination, trial, and appeal. The goal being that the information obtained will help the Subcommittee and the Commission determine where it can assist county prosecutors

in charging, prosecuting, and sustaining on appeal cases of human trafficking. Ultimately, the Subcommittee hopes these results will help those who are committed to fighting human trafficking by providing them with information concerning the true prevalence of human trafficking in the State of Michigan and where resources should be directed.

The Commission would like the survey to be open for several months to promote a good response rate. After the survey period has ended, the results will be analyzed. A university has indicated willingness to assist with survey analysis. The goal is for the Commission to distribute the survey and receive results and analysis in 2020.

Victim Services

Subcommittee Members:

Ms. Kelly Carter, Human Trafficking Commission Chair; Assistant Attorney General

Ms. Debi Cain, Michigan Division of Victim Services; Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board

Ms. Elizabeth Moon Carter, The Salvation Army

Ms. Judy Emmons, Office of Senator Rick Outman; Emmons Farms

Ms. Fadowa Harrel, Clinical Social Worker

Ms. Deborah Monroe, Recovery Concepts of Michigan

Ms. Shari Montgomery, The House of Promise

The Victim Services Subcommittee worked during the year to develop a “listening tour” to learn directly from victims about how best to serve them. The Subcommittee is also working on compiling a comprehensive inventory of services available across the state to human trafficking survivors.

The listening tour will allow Commission members a chance to confidentially hear from survivors of trafficking. The goal of the tour is to allow survivor voices to fully inform our conversation on what services are available, what services are needed, and the way in which these services are provided. The Subcommittee has identified an initial class of potential participants to begin the tour. The details of the first phase of the tour are expected to be settled in early 2020, with an additional phase (or phases) expanding geographically across the state. The aim is to make the tour as inclusive as possible, making

sure to hear from survivors of both sex and labor trafficking. Moreover, the Subcommittee seeks to include as diverse a survivor pool as possible.

In addition, the Subcommittee has begun work on developing a resource list of service providers across the state, with a goal toward categorizing those providers based upon the level and scope of services available to human trafficking survivors. This list will identify services available from those organizations which focus their services on human trafficking survivors. In addition, the Subcommittee will also identify services provided by those who do not necessarily focus on the human trafficking population, but whose services could fulfill the needs of trafficking survivors. The Subcommittee seeks to then make this comprehensive list meaningfully accessible to others to use as a resource.

Public Awareness

Subcommittee Members:

Ms. Judy Emmons, Office of Senator Rick Outman; Emmons Farms

Ms. Fadowa Harrel, Clinical Social Worker

Mr. David Leyton, Genesee County Prosecutor

Ms. Suzanna Shkreli, Office of the Governor

In 2019, the Public Awareness Subcommittee focused on developing a comprehensive Human Trafficking Awareness campaign addressing three specific areas: substance, audience, and media. While initial efforts have been fruitful, the Subcommittee expects to continue this work into 2020.

Substance: The Subcommittee resolved to highlight labor trafficking whenever possible so as to ensure it gets adequate attention in light of the fact that typically sex trafficking tends to attract the most attention. The Subcommittee is working on developing a campaign that will reference or include materials from other established federal campaigns such as the Department of Homeland Security's "Blue" Campaign, which effectively highlights labor trafficking on par with sex trafficking. The Subcommittee will also examine materials developed by the federal Office of Victims of Crime.

Media: The Subcommittee seeks to develop public service announcements that can be distributed to media throughout the state, including local television and radio. The Subcommittee is also

exploring options to utilize social media to communicate information regarding human trafficking. Those efforts will continue into 2020. Finally, the Subcommittee is exploring a new print campaign including brochures and pamphlets on human trafficking awareness for distribution to various groups interested in human trafficking, including other state agencies.

Audience: The Public Awareness Subcommittee is aimed at providing information to the public at-large, as opposed to specific professional groups which are addressed by the Training and Education Subcommittee. To that end, the intended audience is broad. However, the Subcommittee seeks to include some particularly identified populations such as parents of young children. That audience would be easily reachable by materials distributed through social media.

At the December meeting, the Subcommittee recommended the full Commission support the issuance of a gubernatorial proclamation to declare January as human trafficking month in the State of Michigan. The full Commission voted to recommend the proclamation.

Policy and Legislation

Subcommittee Members:

Ms. Kelly Carter, Human Trafficking Commission Chair, Assistant Attorney General

Mr. Hassan Beydoun, Michigan House of Representatives

Mr. David Leyton, Genesee County Prosecutor

Det/Lt Edward Price, Michigan State Police

Hon. Michelle Rick, 29th Judicial Circuit Court

In an extremely productive year, the Commission voted to recommend a package of 30 bills.

Beginning in June of 2019, several legislators expressed interest in developing human trafficking legislation. As the last significant package was passed five years ago, the time seemed right to gather legislators, stakeholders and members of the Policy and Legislative Subcommittee to examine human trafficking legislation in the state.

The Policy and Legislative Subcommittee convened a legislative workgroup comprised of bicameral and bipartisan legislators, legislative staff, as well as stakeholders such as law enforcement and victim service providers. The group worked consistently on a number of legislative proposals across three subcategories: criminal justice, training, and funding. While the resulting package is comprised primarily of criminal justice and training proposals, the workgroup identified a number of proposals that are worthy of additional consideration. The Policy and Legislative Subcommittee will continue to work on those proposals to develop additional legislative initiatives in the coming years. In particular, effort is still required to identify reliable, sustained funding for the Commission, victim services, and training.

The 2019 Human Trafficking Legislative Package

Training:

The work regarding human trafficking training legislation focused on developing mandates for additional professionals to receive training. Included in the 2014 human trafficking

legislative package was a mandate that licensed health professionals receive training on human trafficking prior to licensure or re-licensure. This original mandate directed the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) to work with each board responsible for licensing the various health professionals to develop rules and procedures regarding the human trafficking training. The various boards developed consistent rules for what would satisfy the training mandate.

The effectiveness of the training mandate has been evident. Requests for training and presentations have increased dramatically. Moreover, reports to the National Human Trafficking hotline by health professionals has increased noticeably.

Given the demonstrated success in mandating training for healthcare licensees, the workgroup identified additional professions that were amenable to mandated human trafficking training. While the list was longer, several professions were not as amenable to a mandate as they are not regulated or licensed by a centralized entity. While there was consideration of implementing training for hotel and hospitality professionals, continued work will be necessary to develop an approach that effectively targets that group. Regarding other identified professions, who are licensed or regulated, the workgroup developed a working template for implementing human trafficking training in this package and going forward. The approach is two-pronged:

1) the mandate on the licensing side; and 2) the added Commission requirement to develop minimum standards for training.

On the licensing side, each new mandate requires the licensing entity to develop training which references recommendations for minimum standards for training. Those professions that will now be required to receive human trafficking training for licensure include commercial drivers, educators, educational-based counselors, and cosmetologists.

With regard to training standards, the companion bill will amend the Human Trafficking Commission Act to develop those minimum standards for training. Thus, going forward, as other licensed and regulated professions are identified as being appropriate for mandated human trafficking training, each mandate will reference the minimum standards for training developed by the Commission.

Criminal Justice:

The workgroup developed a number of criminal justice proposals either directly benefitting trafficking victims or strengthening prosecutor tools to hold traffickers accountable.

Strengthening Survivor Protections

Expanded Minor Rebuttable Presumption:

Recognizing the many challenges that minor sex trafficking victims face, the workgroup developed a proposal to expand the rebuttable presumption afforded to minors found in commercial sexual activity. Previously, a minor who was presumed to be a victim of sex trafficking was required to substantially comply with court-ordered services in order to preserve that presumption. Now, rather than failure to comply with court-ordered services being a complete bar to a minor benefitting from the presumption, a court can consider the minor's compliance as a factor in continuing the presumption.

Expansion of Adult and Juvenile Human Trafficking Victim Expungement:

Expanding the special human trafficking expungement to apply to all crimes will allow

survivors to clear their record of convictions for crimes committed as a result of trafficking.

As the Commission works with those who assist survivors of trafficking, we are enlightened in the ways that survivors continue to suffer. Previously, the Commission had proposed bills allowing survivors to clear their trafficking-related convictions for minor state prostitution offenses. That was expanded to include previously overlooked minor prostitution ordinance violations, only to again realize there are victims who are prevented relief because they were instead charged with loitering or disorderly person as a "common prostitute."

Rather than continuing to incrementally expand the commercial sex-related crime list, the Commission is recommending a more comprehensive expansion of the safe harbor expungement beyond the current commercial sex-related crimes. Through repeated and continuous interaction with victims in both a service provision scenario as well as victims cooperating in criminal prosecution, Commission members repeatedly see victims who are forced by their traffickers to engage in other types of criminal activity including drug offenses, theft offenses, and gun offenses. In recognition of the realities of human trafficking victims, there are two bills that seek to expand expungement for human trafficking victims, under an adult approach as well as expand expungement for juvenile offenses.

Affirmative Defense for Victims of Human Trafficking:

Along the same lines as expungement, the Commission has recommended creation of an affirmative defense for victims of human trafficking to prevent future convictions for crimes committed as a result of trafficking. The proposal would create an affirmative defense to any crime committed by a victim of human trafficking who can establish that the commission of the crime was a direct result of that person being a victim of human trafficking.

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Strengthening Tools to Hold Traffickers Accountable

Amend Expert Testimony for Human Trafficking Cases:

For years, caselaw in Michigan (and across the country) has been developing to allow expert testimony at trial to explain victim behavior where it would seem to deviate from what the general public would expect. The development has come in the areas of domestic violence and sexual assault, but there have been no cases in Michigan extending the same expert testimony to human trafficking cases. The same challenges exist in human trafficking cases as domestic violence and sexual assault cases.

Although a law was enacted in 2017 that sought to permit the introduction of expert witness testimony, that new provision only allows the expert testimony if it “is otherwise admissible under the rules of evidence and laws of this state.” MCL 750.462g(2). Unfortunately, the amendment as enacted fails to be specific enough to address the problem. The proposed amendment would specifically codify caselaw which sets forth the appropriate standard a court should apply in determining whether a person meets the qualifications to provide expert testimony under these circumstances.

Expand Statutory Immunity for Compelled Testimony to Human Trafficking Chapter:

The prostitution chapter of the Criminal Code includes statutory immunity for any person compelled to give testimony in a case involving charges from the prostitution chapter. No doubt this is in recognition that those who have committed criminal acts such as prostitution may be unwilling to provide testimony about those controlling the prostitution for fear of exposing themselves to criminal liability. This is particularly true in human trafficking cases. Accordingly, the Commission is recommending that the prostitution immunity provision be added to the human trafficking chapter.

Include Human Trafficking in Propensity Evidence Expansion:

Last year’s sexual assault package saw the expansion of the introduction of “propensity evidence” in domestic violence and sexual assault cases to now include sexual assault crimes committed against adults. Again, given the incredible similarities between domestic violence, sexual assault, and trafficking cases – particularly sex trafficking, the Commission is recommending adding human trafficking to the class of crimes in which propensity evidence is admissible.

New Commercial Sexual Activity Statute: Modernizing the Prostitution Chapter:

Finally, in recognition of the inescapable overlap between sex trafficking and “prostitution,” the Commission is recommending over a dozen proposals that fundamentally alter the landscape with regard to what should formally be known as prostitution. Starting from the realization that nowhere in Michigan law was the crime of “prostitution” ever defined, but more importantly, recognizing the stigma and judgment that is so often inflicted with the use of the term “prostitution,” the Workgroup embraced the recommendation that we replace the term “prostitution” throughout Michigan law with the defined term: “commercial sexual activity”. The package contains over a dozen recommendations that seek to strike the term prostitution and all references to it throughout the Michigan Criminal Code. Instead, that term would be replaced with the term commercial sexual activity that is generally defined in the human trafficking chapter as a sex act provided in exchange for something of value.

In addition to the change of terminology, the package includes recommendations for additional changes to what has been historically known as the prostitution chapter of the Criminal Code. Those new proposals would clearly and unambiguously define the crimes of providing commercial sexual activity and obtaining commercial sexual activity. The crime of providing commercial sexual activity would

not only specifically include an exemption for commercial sexual activity provided through force, fraud, or coercion [sex trafficking], but would also create an exemption for a victim of pandering - a 20 year felony - wherein the panderer through inducement, persuasion or encouragement, by promise, threat or scheme causes the “provider” to engage in the commercial sexual act.

This proposal seeks to recognize the increased level of vulnerability of those providing commercial sexual acts as opposed to those from a position of power obtaining commercial sexual

acts. To that end, the proposal would decrease penalties for providers of commercial sexual activity to misdemeanors while conversely increasing to a felony the penalties for those who obtain commercial sexual activity. Additional changes to what is currently known as the prostitution chapter would replace archaic language with more applicable and appropriate descriptions of the realities of commercial sexual activity today. Thus, terminology such as “house of ill fame,” or “bawdy house” would be replaced with terminology accurately reflecting the current state of commercial sexual activity.

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“As Chair of the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission, I am encouraged by a new sense of commitment and productivity demonstrated by the Commission. With newly appointed members and several new initiatives, I am excited by the progress the Commission has shown this year. I am humbled and honored to work with such dedicated individuals who are passionate about assisting survivors of trafficking, holding traffickers accountable, and clearly and accurately highlighting the many facets of human trafficking.”

Kelly Carter

Michigan Human Trafficking Commission Chair
and Assistant Attorney General

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Funding and Resources Subcommittee

Subcommittee Members:

Mr. Hassan Beydoun, Michigan House of Representatives

Ms. Shari Montgomery, The House of Promise

Ms. Suzanna Shkreli, Office of the Governor

The Funding and Resources Subcommittee continued its work to identify grant opportunities for all aspects of human trafficking including grants for victims' services, training, public outreach, and data collection and research.

The Subcommittee is also working on identifying funding partners. The Commission has interests

that overlap with academic institutions; therefore, those institutions may be logical partners to provide funding to research projects. Likewise, foundations may be logical partners for providing funding for Commission initiatives. The Subcommittee seeks to further develop funding partnerships in 2020.

Conclusion and Acknowledgements

Thank you to all the Commission members for their work in combatting human trafficking in Michigan. We look forward to a successful 2020.

The Commission would also like to thank the following individuals who contributed to various subcommittees throughout the year:

Ms. Aleksandra Andjelkovic

Ms. Kathy Maitland

Mr. Kristopher McNeil

Mr. Andy Soper

Ms. Margaret Talburtt

Finally, the Commission thanks the following individuals from the Department of Attorney General for their work assisting the Commission:

Ms. Michelle Brya-Project Manager

Ms. Candace Black

Mr. David Cannon

Ms. Venesha Cezil

Ms. Banu Colak

Mr. Scott Damich

Ms. Harmony Glashower

Ms. Danielle Hagaman-Clark

Mr. Peter Kotula

Mr. Dan Magee

Mr. Matthew Payok

Ms. Sarah Shultz

