

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bonamici, Dingfelder, Kruse, Whitsett, Prozanski
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Bill Taylor, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	2/9, 4/6, 4/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes the requirement that the state prove that a person charged with compelling a minor to engage in prostitution knew the person being compelled was a minor and eliminates the defense that the defendant did not know the minor’s age or that the defendant reasonably believed the minor was older than eighteen years of age. Applies to conduct occurring after the effective date of the measure. Adds “aids or facilitates” to the crime of compelling prostitution. Subjects a juvenile age 15, 16 or 17 years old to juvenile court jurisdiction rather than adult court, and a mandatory minimum sentence of 70 months for facilitating the crime of prostitution, unless the juvenile court waives the child to adult court. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Those who compel underage children into prostitution should not be able to claim lack of knowledge of the victim’s age
- Juveniles who aid and assist will be handled through the normal juvenile court proceedings

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Adds “aids or facilitates” to the crime of compelling prostitution. Subjects a juvenile age 15, 16 or 17 years old to juvenile court jurisdiction rather than adult court, and a mandatory minimum sentence of 70 months for facilitating the crime of prostitution, unless the juvenile court waives the child to adult court.

BACKGROUND: Currently, the state must prove that a person compelling another to commit the crime of prostitution knew that the person being compelled was under the age of eighteen. The sentence of compelling prostitution is a minimum of 70 months.