

SB 745 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Lucy Ohlsen, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/4, 5/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs county juvenile departments to ensure a sex trafficking screening is conducted when a youth or adjudicated youth is taken into custody or, if youth is not taken into custody, at point of intake. Requires county juvenile departments to refer youth to appropriate services and Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) and Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), in consultation with the Oregon Department of Justice's (DOJ) Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee, to maintain and make available a regularly updated list of referral resources for use by county juvenile departments. Directs the Department of Justice, in consultation with DOJ's Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee, to develop two separate trainings, one on the use of a standardized sex trafficking screening tool and one on sex trafficking more broadly. Requires that DOJ provide training on screening tool to county juvenile departments and requires that county juvenile departments ensure all staff who work directly with youth complete the training. Requires DOJ to provide general training to county juvenile departments and state agencies that work with youth at no cost, and requires that state agencies and county juvenile departments ensure that all staff who work with youth receive the training. Provides dates for when each obligation must be met. Requires DOJ's Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee to report certain data to the Legislative Assembly as specified no later than December 31, 2025. Adds adjudicated youth to all references to youth in the measure. Defines relevant terms. Repeals provisions related to dates for certain directives on January 2, 2026. Provides operative dates for provisions in measure. Allows DOJ, DOJ's Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee, DHS, OYA, and county juvenile departments to take action prior to operative dates. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

Fiscal: Minimal fiscal impact.

Revenue: No revenue impact.

Senate vote: Ayes, 27; Excused, 3.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Public and private officials, including those working in the juvenile justice system, have a duty to report to the Department of Human Services (DHS) if the official suspects that a youth has suffered abuse. However, when a youth is taken into custody pursuant to the Juvenile Delinquency Code, there is no specific requirement that a juvenile department assess whether the youth may be a victim of sex trafficking. In 2020, the Washington state legislature enacted a law requiring that specific services be offered to youth who are reasonably believed to be victims of sex trafficking.

Senate Bill 745 A requires that, as soon as practicable after a youth is taken into custody, or if the youth is not taken into custody, at the point of intake, the county juvenile department ensure the youth is screened to determine whether the youth is a victim of sex trafficking. If a screening indicates that a youth is a victim of sex trafficking, the measure requires that the screener make a report to DHS, and that the county juvenile

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department refer the youth to appropriate services. The measure directs DHS, the Oregon Youth Authority, and the Department of Justice (DOJ), in consultation with DOJ's Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee, to make available and maintain a regularly updated list of referral resources for use by county juvenile departments. Additionally, the measure directs DOJ to develop, in consultation with DOJ's Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee, a screening tool, a training on how to use the screening tool, and a training on sex trafficking more broadly, all for use by county juvenile departments and state agencies. Finally, the measure requires that state agencies and county juvenile departments ensure that their staff are appropriately and regularly trained on both the screening tool and sex trafficking more broadly.