

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3813

To designate a human trafficking prevention coordinator and to expand the scope of activities authorized under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s outreach and education program to include human trafficking prevention activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut (for herself and Mr. KATKO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To designate a human trafficking prevention coordinator and to expand the scope of activities authorized under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s outreach and education program to include human trafficking prevention activities, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Combating Human
5 Trafficking in Commercial Vehicles Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION COORDINATOR.**

2 The Secretary of Transportation shall designate an
3 official within the Department of Transportation who
4 shall—

5 (1) coordinate human trafficking prevention ef-
6 forts across modal administrations in the Depart-
7 ment of Transportation and with other departments
8 and agencies of the Federal Government; and

9 (2) in coordinating such efforts, take into ac-
10 count the unique challenges of combating human
11 trafficking within different transportation modes.

12 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF OUTREACH AND EDUCATION PRO-**
13 **GRAM.**

14 Section 31110(c)(1) of title 49, United States Code,
15 is amended by adding at the end the following: “The pro-
16 gram authorized under this subsection may support, in ad-
17 dition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, the
18 recognition, prevention, and reporting of human traf-
19 ficking, while deferring to existing resources, as prac-
20 ticable.”.

21 **SEC. 4. EXPANSION OF COMMERCIAL DRIVER’S LICENSE FI-**
22 **NANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

23 Section 31313(a)(3) of title 49, United States Code,
24 is amended—

25 (1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “or” at
26 the end;

1 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as sub-
2 paragraph (F); and

3 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(E) support, in addition to funds other-
6 wise available for such purposes, the recogni-
7 tion, prevention, and reporting of human traf-
8 ficking; or”.

9 **SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANS-**
10 **PORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON**
11 **HUMAN TRAFFICKING.**

12 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish
13 an advisory committee on human trafficking.

14 (b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

15 (1) **COMPOSITION.**—The Committee shall be
16 composed of not more than 15 external stakeholder
17 members whose diverse experience and background
18 enable them to provide balanced points of view with
19 regard to carrying out the duties of the Committee.

20 (2) **SELECTION.**—The Secretary shall appoint
21 the external stakeholder members to the Committee,
22 including representatives from—

23 (A) trafficking advocacy organizations;

24 (B) law enforcement; and

1 (C) trucking, bus, rail, aviation, maritime,
2 and port sectors, including industry and labor.

3 (3) PERIODS OF APPOINTMENT.—Members
4 shall be appointed for the life of the Committee.

5 (4) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Committee
6 shall be filled in the manner in which the original
7 appointment was made and shall not affect the pow-
8 ers or duties of the Committee.

9 (5) COMPENSATION.—Committee members shall
10 serve without compensation.

11 (c) AUTHORITY.—Not later than 9 months after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish
13 and appoint all members of the Committee.

14 (d) DUTIES.—

15 (1) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT
16 OF TRANSPORTATION.—Not later than 18 months
17 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
18 mittee shall make recommendations to the Secretary
19 on actions the Department can take to help combat
20 human trafficking, including the development and
21 implementation of—

22 (A) successful strategies for identifying
23 and reporting instances of human trafficking;
24 and

1 (B) recommendations for administrative or
2 legislative changes necessary to use programs,
3 properties, or other resources owned, operated,
4 or funded by the Department to combat human
5 trafficking.

6 (2) BEST PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDA-
7 TIONS.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall
9 develop recommended best practices for States
10 and State and local transportation stakeholders
11 to follow in combating human trafficking.

12 (B) DEVELOPMENT.—The best practices
13 shall be based on multidisciplinary research and
14 promising, evidence-based models and pro-
15 grams.

16 (C) CONTENT.—The best practices shall be
17 user-friendly, incorporate the most up-to-date
18 technology, and include the following:

- 19 (i) Sample training materials.
20 (ii) Strategies to identify victims.
21 (iii) Sample protocols and rec-
22 ommendations, including—

23 (I) strategies to collect, docu-
24 ment, and share data across systems
25 and agencies;

1 (II) strategies to help agencies
2 better understand the types of traf-
3 ficking involved, the scope of the prob-
4 lem, and the degree of victim inter-
5 action with multiple systems; and

6 (III) strategies to identify effec-
7 tive pathways for State agencies to
8 utilize their position in educating crit-
9 ical stakeholder groups and assisting
10 victims.

11 (D) INFORMING STATES OF BEST PRAC-
12 TICES.—The Secretary shall ensure that State
13 Governors and State departments of transpor-
14 tation are notified of the best practices and rec-
15 ommendations.

16 (e) REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date
17 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

18 (1) submit a report on the actions of the Com-
19 mittee described in subsection (d) to—

20 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
21 and Transportation of the Senate; and

22 (B) the Committee on Transportation and
23 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;
24 and

1 (2) make the report under paragraph (1) pub-
2 licly available both physically and online.

3 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee”
5 means the Department of Transportation Advisory
6 Committee on Human Trafficking established under
7 subsection (a).

8 (2) HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—The term “human
9 trafficking” means an act or practice described in
10 paragraph (9) or paragraph (10) of section 103 of
11 the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22
12 U.S.C. 7102).

13 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
14 the Secretary of Transportation.

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