

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 359

BY REPRESENTATIVES MILLER, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, CARRIER,
DICKERSON, FISHER, FREIBERG, JORDAN, KNOX, LAFLEUR,
LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MCMAKIN, MOORE, NEWELL, SPELL,
STAGNI, TAYLOR, WALTERS, AND WYBLE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1216.1(E)(2) and to enact R.S. 46:2168.1, relative to human
3 trafficking; to establish procedures for treating victims of human trafficking; to
4 establish the Human Trafficking in Emergency Departments Task Force; to require
5 the task force to prepare a protocol; to provide for termination of the task force; to
6 provide for inclusion of the protocol in the regional sexual assault response plans;
7 and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 40:1216.1(E)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §1216.1. Procedures for survivors of a sexually oriented criminal offense; immunity;
11 regional plans; maximum allowable costs; definitions; documents requested
12 by victim

13 * * *

14 E.

15 * * *

16 (2) When developing the annual response plan, each district shall incorporate
17 a sexual assault response team protocol and the uniform protocol for human
18 trafficking established by the Human Trafficking in Emergency Departments Task
19 Force. Each district shall develop the annual plan to do all of the following:

20 * * *

Section 2. R.S. 46:2168.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2168.1. Human Trafficking in Emergency Departments Task Force

A. The Human Trafficking in Emergency Departments Task Force is hereby created within the office of human trafficking prevention.

B. The task force shall draft a uniform protocol for human trafficking which shall include information about signs of human trafficking and appropriate response.

The Task Force shall conduct an assessment of hospital emergency department knowledge of the signs of human trafficking including but not limited to the red dot process to silently signal to hospital personnel that a survivor of human trafficking requests to receive care and protection.

C. The task force shall be composed of the following members:

(1) The chair of the House Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee.

(2) The executive director of the office of human trafficking prevention or his designee.

(3) The chair of the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission or his designee.

(4) The co-chair of the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission or his designee.

(5) The chair of the Human Trafficking Prevention Commission Advisory Board or his designee.

(6) The co-chair of the Human Trafficking Prevention Commission Advisory Board or his designee.

(7) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.

(8) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services or his designee.

(9) The executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing or his designee.

(10) The president of the Louisiana State Coroner's Association or his designee.

1 (11) A sexual assault nurse examiner selected by the Louisiana Hospital
2 Association.

3 (12) A sexual assault nurse examiner selected by the Louisiana State
4 Coroner's Association.

5 (13) The chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare or his
6 designee.

7 (14) The president of the Louisiana Hospital Association or his designee.

8 (15) An emergency medicine physician selected by the president of the
9 Louisiana State Medical Society.

10 D. The chair of the House Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee
11 shall serve as the chair of the board.

12 E. The provisions of this Section shall terminate on January 1, 2027.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____