

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE BILL 6731

Chapter 250, Laws of 2006

59th Legislature
2006 Regular Session

SEX TOURISM

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/7/06

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2006
YEAS 48 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 1, 2006
YEAS 98 NAYS 0

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 6731** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

THOMAS HOEMANN

Secretary

Approved March 27, 2006.

FILED

March 27, 2006 - 3:20 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

Governor of the State of Washington

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SENATE BILL 6731

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2006 Regular Session

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Senators Fraser, Kohl-Welles, Deccio, Fairley, Mulliken, Prentice, Roach, Honeyford, McAuliffe, Keiser, Regala, Delvin, Franklin, Shin, Sheldon, Berkey, Rasmussen, Haugen, Thibaudeau, Kline and Parlette

Read first time 01/19/2006. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research & Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to prohibiting sellers of travel from promoting
2 travel for sex tourism; adding a new section to chapter 9A.88 RCW;
3 adding a new section to chapter 19.138 RCW; creating a new section; and
4 prescribing penalties.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the sex industry
7 has rapidly expanded over the past several decades. It involves sexual
8 exploitation of persons, predominantly women and girls, including
9 activities relating to prostitution, pornography, sex tourism, and
10 other commercial sexual services. Prostitution and related activities
11 contribute to the trafficking in persons, as does sex tourism.
12 Therefore, discouraging sex tourism is key to reducing the demand for
13 sex trafficking.

14 While prostitution is illegal in developing nations that are the
15 primary destination of sex tourism, sex tourism is a major component of
16 the local economy. The laws target female workers rather than the male
17 customers, and economic opportunities for females are limited.
18 Developed nations create the demand for sex tourism, yet often fail to

1 criminalize the practice, or the existing laws fail to specifically
2 target the sellers of travel who organize, facilitate, and promote sex
3 tourism.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 9A.88 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) A person commits the offense of promoting travel for
7 prostitution if the person knowingly sells or offers to sell travel
8 services that include or facilitate travel for the purpose of engaging
9 in what would be patronizing a prostitute or promoting prostitution, if
10 occurring in the state.

11 (2) For purposes of this section, "travel services" has the same
12 meaning as defined in RCW 19.138.021.

13 (3) Promoting travel for prostitution is a class C felony.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 19.138 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) No seller of travel shall engage in any of the following:

- 17 (a) Promoting travel for prostitution;
- 18 (b) Selling, advertising, or otherwise offering to sell travel
19 services or facilitate travel:
 - 20 (i) For the purposes of engaging in a commercial sex act;
 - 21 (ii) That consists of tourism packages or activities using and
22 offering sexual acts as an enticement for tourism; or
 - 23 (iii) That provides, purports to provide access to, or facilitates
24 the availability of sex escorts or sexual services.

25 (2) For the purposes of this section:

- 26 (a) "Commercial sex act" means any sexual contact, as defined in
27 chapter 9A.44 RCW, for which anything of value is given to or received
28 by any person.
- 29 (b) "Sexual act" means any sexual contact as defined in chapter
30 9A.44 RCW.

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2006.
Passed by the House March 1, 2006.
Approved by the Governor March 27, 2006.
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