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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2320**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** House Consumer Protection & Business (originally sponsored by Representatives Leavitt, Van Werven, Orwall, Eslick, Barkis, Shewmake, Lovick, Harris, Sells, Kilduff, Tarleton, Fey, Irwin, Wylie, Doglio, Pellicciotti, Kloba, and Riccelli)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring training on human trafficking;  
2 amending RCW 70.62.260; adding a new section to chapter 70.62 RCW;  
3 and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that human  
6 trafficking is a serious problem in the United States and in the  
7 state of Washington. Polaris project, the largest anti-human  
8 trafficking organization in the United States, hosts the national  
9 human trafficking hotline. Since the hotline's inception in 2007,  
10 over fifty thousand human trafficking cases have been discovered. In  
11 2018, the hotline identified over twenty-three thousand survivors of  
12 human trafficking nationally. Human trafficking is an international  
13 problem that will continue to exploit the most vulnerable individuals  
14 in a community if proper training and identification support is not  
15 provided to the community at large.

16 (2) The legislature also recognizes that human trafficking is  
17 prevalent within hotels and motels across the country and in  
18 Washington. In 2018, eighty-one percent of the active sex trafficking  
19 cases in the United States involved a victim who was compelled to  
20 provide a commercial sexual act at a hotel. In 2017, forty-five  
21 percent of youth victims surveyed reported having been exploited in

1 hotels. There is evidence to suggest that training can be an  
2 effective way of raising awareness about human trafficking. According  
3 to the Washington-based anti-trafficking group businesses ending  
4 slavery and trafficking, hoteliers who received human trafficking  
5 awareness training reported a significant increase in the likelihood  
6 that they would call law enforcement if they suspected trafficking.

7 (3) It is the intent of the legislature to work toward the goal  
8 of ridding hotels and other places of accommodation in Washington of  
9 human trafficking.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.62  
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 (1) A transient accommodation shall provide annual training  
13 regarding human trafficking to each of its employees.

14 (2) Training must be provided to all employees no later than  
15 January 1, 2021, and to new employees no later than ninety days after  
16 they begin their employment.

17 (3) The training required under this section must include, at a  
18 minimum, the following:

19 (a) The definition of human trafficking and commercial  
20 exploitation of children, and the difference between sex trafficking  
21 and labor trafficking;

22 (b) Content that is culturally responsive and includes  
23 information about implicit cultural bias;

24 (c) Guidance specific to the public lodging sector concerning how  
25 to identify individuals who may be victims of human trafficking  
26 including how implicit bias may interfere with the accurate  
27 identification of suspected victims of human trafficking;

28 (d) Guidance concerning the role of the employees in  
29 appropriately responding to suspected human trafficking, and the  
30 potential harms of involving law enforcement without the consent of  
31 the suspected victim; and

32 (e) The contact information of appropriate agencies, including a  
33 national human trafficking hotline telephone number and the telephone  
34 numbers of appropriate local law enforcement agencies.

35 (4) By January 1, 2021, every operator of a transient  
36 accommodation shall post in a location conspicuous to employees  
37 signage regarding human trafficking awareness, printed in an easily  
38 legible font in English and any other language spoken by at least ten  
39 percent of the employees.

1 (5) By January 1, 2021, every operator of a transient  
2 accommodation shall implement procedures for the voluntary reporting  
3 of suspected human trafficking to the national human trafficking  
4 hotline or to a local law enforcement agency, and a policy to act as  
5 a guide for all employees on human trafficking prevention.

6 (6) Contents of the training and copies of the signage must be  
7 made available for inspection, upon request by the department.

8 **Sec. 3.** RCW 70.62.260 and 2004 c 162 s 1 are each amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (1) (a) No person shall operate a transient accommodation as  
11 defined in this chapter without having a valid license issued by the  
12 department. Applications for a transient accommodation license shall  
13 be filed with the department sixty days or more before initiating  
14 business as a transient accommodation. All licenses issued under the  
15 provisions of this chapter shall expire one year from the effective  
16 date.

17 (b) The department may not renew or issue a license to an  
18 applicant without first receiving written certification from the  
19 applicant that the human trafficking training requirements under  
20 section 2 of this act regarding training, signage, and procedures for  
21 reporting have been met.

22 (2) All applications for renewal of licenses shall be either: (a)  
23 Postmarked no later than midnight on the date the license expires; or  
24 (b) if personally presented to the department or sent by electronic  
25 means, received by the department by 5:00 p.m. on the date the  
26 license expires.

27 (3) A licensee that submits a license renewal application in  
28 accordance with this section and the rules and fee schedule adopted  
29 under this chapter shall be deemed to possess a valid license for the  
30 year following the expiration date of the expiring license, or until  
31 the department suspends or revokes the license pursuant to RCW  
32 70.62.270.

33 (4) The license of a licensee that fails to submit a license  
34 renewal application in accordance with this section, and the rules  
35 and fee schedule adopted under this chapter, shall become invalid on  
36 the thirty-fifth day after the expiration date, unless the licensee  
37 shall have corrected any and all deficiencies in the renewal  
38 application and paid a penalty fee as established by rule by the  
39 department before the thirty-fifth day following the expiration date.

1 An invalid license may be reinstated upon reapplication as an  
2 applicant for a new license under subsection (1) of this section.  
3 (5) Each license shall be issued only for the premises and  
4 persons named in the application.

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