

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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SENATE BILL 500

Short Title: Strengthen Human Trafficking Law. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators D. Davis (Primary Sponsor); Newton, Robinson, Sanderson, Van Duyn, and Waddell.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 30, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-43.11(a) reads as rewritten:

5 "**§ 14-43.11. Human trafficking.**

6 (a) A person commits the offense of human trafficking when that person (i) knowingly
7 or in reckless disregard of the consequences of the action recruits, entices, harbors, transports,
8 provides, ~~or obtains~~ obtains, advertises, maintains, patronizes, or solicits by any means another
9 person with the intent that the other person be held in involuntary servitude or sexual servitude
10 or (ii) willfully or in reckless disregard of the consequences of the action causes a minor to be
11 held in involuntary servitude or sexual servitude."

12 **SECTION 2.** Article 10A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by
13 adding the following new sections to read:

14 "**§ 14-43.15. Profiting from human trafficking.**

15 (a) A person commits the offense of profiting from human trafficking when that person
16 benefits, financially or by receiving anything of value, from participation in a venture that has
17 engaged in any act in violation of G.S. 14-43.11, 14-43.12, or 14-43.13 knowing or in reckless
18 disregard of the fact that the venture has engaged in such violation.

19 (b) A person convicted of an offense under this section shall be punished as follows:

20 (1) If the venture engaged in a violation of G.S. 14-43.11 or G.S. 14-43.12 and
21 the victim of the violation is an adult, the person is guilty of a Class F
22 felony. If the venture engaged in a violation of G.S. 14-43.11 or
23 G.S. 14-43.12 and the victim of the violation is a child, the person is guilty
24 of a Class C felony.

25 (2) If the venture engaged in a violation of G.S. 14-43.13 and the victim of the
26 violation is an adult, the person is guilty of a Class D felony. If the venture
27 engaged in a violation of G.S. 14-43.13 and the victim of the violation is a
28 child, the person is guilty of a Class C felony.

29 (c) Each violation of this section constitutes a separate offense and shall not merge with
30 any other offense.

31 "**§ 14-43.16. Obstruction of investigation of human trafficking.**

32 Any person who obstructs, attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents
33 the enforcement of this Article is guilty of a Class F felony."

34 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2017, and applies to
35 offenses committed on or after that date.

