

HOUSE BILL 1322

C2, J1

0lr1395
CF SB 542

By: **Delegates Hucker, Benson, Ali, Barkley, Barve, Bobo, Bronrott, Carr, Feldman, Gutierrez, Hecht, Hixson, Hubbard, Kullen, Manno, Montgomery, Morhaim, Reznik, Taylor, Vaughn, and Waldstreicher**

Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2010

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Business Regulation – Lodging Establishments – National Human Trafficking**
3 **Resource Center Hotline Information**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to
5 design a sign that contains certain information regarding the National Human
6 Trafficking Resource Center Hotline; requiring the sign to meet certain
7 requirements and be placed on the Department website; requiring an innkeeper
8 of a lodging establishment to post a certain sign in certain places for a certain
9 period of time if certain conditions are met; providing certain penalties for the
10 violation of a certain provision of this Act; and generally relating to lodging
11 establishments and information regarding the National Human Trafficking
12 Resource Center Hotline.

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Business Regulation
15 Section 15–207
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Business Regulation**

21 **15–207.**

22 **(A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGN A SIGN THAT STATES THE**
23 **FOLLOWING:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **“IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS BEING FORCED TO ENGAGE IN ANY**
2 **ACTIVITY AND CANNOT LEAVE – WHETHER IT IS COMMERCIAL SEX, HOUSEWORK,**
3 **FARM WORK, OR ANY OTHER ACTIVITY – CALL THE NATIONAL HUMAN**
4 **TRAFFICKING RESOURCE CENTER HOTLINE AT 1-888-373-7888 TO ACCESS**
5 **HELP AND SERVICES.**

6 **VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING ARE PROTECTED UNDER U.S. AND**
7 **MARYLAND LAW. THE HOTLINE IS:**

- 8 • **TOLL-FREE, AVAILABLE 24/7**
- 9 • **ANONYMOUS AND CONFIDENTIAL**
- 10 • **OPERATED BY A NONPROFIT, NONGOVERNMENTAL**
11 **ORGANIZATION**
- 12 • **ACCESSIBLE IN 170 LANGUAGES**
- 13 • **ABLE TO PROVIDE HELP, REFERRAL TO SERVICES, TRAINING,**
14 **AND GENERAL INFORMATION”.**

15 **(2) THE SIGN SHALL:**

16 **(I) BE AT LEAST 8.5 BY 11 INCHES IN SIZE;**

17 **(II) CONTAIN THE TEXT REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)**
18 **OF THIS SUBSECTION IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, AND ANY OTHER LANGUAGES**
19 **REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT;**

20 **(III) DRAW ATTENTION TO THE PHONE NUMBER OF THE**
21 **NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE CENTER HOTLINE BY SHOWING**
22 **THE PHONE NUMBER IN BOLD TYPE; AND**

23 **(IV) BE PLACED ON THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE.**

24 **(B) AN INNKEEPER OF A LODGING ESTABLISHMENT SHALL POST**
25 **PROMINENTLY IN EACH GUEST ROOM FOR 1 YEAR THE SIGN THAT IS PLACED ON**
26 **THE WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION**
27 **IF THE LODGING ESTABLISHMENT:**

28 **(1) HAS BEEN FOUND TO KEEP A COMMON NUISANCE UNDER §**
29 **5-605 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE; OR**

30 **(2) IS A LOCATION WHERE AN INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN ARRESTED**
31 **FOR PROSTITUTION, SOLICITATION OF A MINOR, OR HUMAN TRAFFICKING**
32 **UNDER TITLE 11, SUBTITLE 13 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.**

1 **(C) (1) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION**
2 **IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT**
3 **EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 DAYS, OR BOTH.**

4 **(2) EACH GUEST ROOM THAT DOES NOT HAVE A SIGN IS NOT A**
5 **SEPARATE VIOLATION.**

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2010.