

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2019 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-016-2019

Draft No.: 2

Committee: Health, Human Services and Public Safety

Date: 7/18/2019

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT:

COMMITTEE VOTE: Favorable, 4-0 as amended (In Favor: Hawkins, Ivy, Harrison and Taveras)

The Legislative Officer provided a summary of the legislation and referral comments that were received. CB-16-2019 establishes clear definitions, prohibited actions and penalties for engaging in Labor and Human Trafficking. The committee considered a Draft 2 with added language; "Sex and Labor Trafficking." The added language modified the code making it comparable to current Human Trafficking language in the code.

The Bill sponsor provided background information on the need for the legislation indicating that CB-16 and CB-15-2019 collectively addresses the issue of Human and Labor Trafficking. The sponsor indicated that this past session Maryland enacted laws addressing Labor and Human Trafficking.

The Prince George's County Human Trafficking Task Force, through the Prince George's County Human Relations Commission, and the Department of Family Services' Division of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking supports CB-16-2019. The Human Relations Commission provided written testimony.

The States Attorney, provided written comments in support of CB-15-2019 and CB-16-2019, stating that trafficking is the violation of human rights for the purpose of economic exploitation and urged the committee's favorable consideration to this vital piece of legislation. Representatives from the State Attorney's Office spoke on behalf of the States Attorney.

The Office of Law finds it to be in proper legislative form.