



## Improvements to Montana's Human Trafficking Laws and Practices since 2013

### 2013 Legislation

- [HB 478](#), strengthening Montana's laws against human trafficking.
- [HB 488](#), creating a human trafficking awareness poster for placement in Montana's rest areas.

### 2015 Legislation

- [HB 89](#), updating Montana's human trafficking laws to reflect the model state human trafficking act.

### 2017 Legislation

- [SB 197](#), encouraging the Montana Office of Public Instruction to find ways to help prevent child sex trafficking.

### 2019 Legislation (upcoming)

The Montana Attorney General's Office and Department of Justice recommends legislative changes that would address gaps in the State's current missing persons statutes. The changes would:

- Authorize DOJ to assist with all missing persons investigations and create a Missing Persons Specialist position;
- Improve missing persons reports and require all law enforcement authorities to accept a report without delay;
- Require a missing person's report if a child's location is unknown in a custodial interference case;
- Require the Office of Public Instruction to establish a school photos repository for children whose parents give permission for the photos to be held and shared with law enforcement if their children go missing;
- Require a study of options to break the youth runaway cycle.

### The Montana Attorney General and Department of Justice:

- Participate on the US Attorney's Office federal Human Trafficking Task Force;

- Work closely on criminal investigations with the FBI and Homeland Security on human trafficking cases;
- Manage the Internet Crimes against Children program, improving coordination between agencies on child exploitation crimes. This includes conducting investigations and enforcement operations for prosecution;
- Provide child sex trafficking training for Montana Children’s Advocacy Centers and child forensic interview specialists;
- Offer human trafficking training, community presentations, and materials to communities and businesses;
- Facilitate human trafficking victim services in Helena, Billings, Bozeman, Kalispell, Missoula, and Great Falls;
- Incorporate human trafficking identification training into the curriculum at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy;
- Produce a [public education campaign](#) targeting the customers of child sex trafficking and conveying the buyers are not anonymous;
- Partner with the Montana Motor Carriers Association for “[Truckers against Trafficking](#),” where trucking and busing industry representatives, convenience store managers, prosecutors, and law enforcement officers from across the state learn how to spot human trafficking and how to respond when it is suspected;
- Update state-issued driver materials with human trafficking awareness information, reaching more people with the message that everyone can play a part in spotting trafficking while they are on the road;
- Work with the Department of Public Health and Human Services to develop a plan so state criminal investigators will be notified when kids in foster care run away or go missing.