



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

Jeff Hobday

H.B. 520

132nd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Miller and Hughes

BILL SUMMARY

- Increases the penalty for soliciting when the person solicited is age 18 or older.
 - Specifies that a court may impose a fine for soliciting in this circumstance of not more than \$2,500.
 - Allows the court to designate up to \$1,000 of the fine to be deposited into the Victims of Human Trafficking Fund.
-

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Soliciting – increased penalty

The bill increases the penalty for soliciting another who is 18 years of age or older to engage with that person in sexual activity for hire. Under current law, soliciting in this circumstance is a third degree misdemeanor. The bill raises the penalty to a first degree misdemeanor, punishable by up to 180 days in jail. Generally, the potential fine for a first degree misdemeanor is not more \$1,000. The bill allows the court to impose a fine of up to \$2,500 for soliciting in this circumstance.¹

Victims of Human Trafficking Fund

If the court imposes a fine for soliciting in the circumstance described above, the bill allows the court to designate not more than \$1,000 of the fine to be deposited into the Victims of Human Trafficking Fund. The clerk of the court must deposit the designated portion of the fine into the state treasury to the credit of the Victims of

¹ R.C. 2907.24(A) and (C)(1)(a).

Human Trafficking Fund, and the remainder of the fine is to be deposited into the county treasury. As under current law, money in the Victims of Human Trafficking Fund must be used for the sole purpose of providing treatment and services to trafficking victims. The Director of Job and Family Services administers the fund.²

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-21-18

H0520-I-132.docx/ks

² R.C. 2907.24(C)(1)(a)(ii) and (E) and 5101.87.

