

2025-2026 #69 Penalties for human trafficking of a minor CORRECTED FINAL

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Colorado

SECTION 1. Legislative Declaration. (1) The people of the State of Colorado hereby find and declare:

- (a) Residents of Colorado and other states and territories throughout the United States have seen an alarming increase in human trafficking, especially human trafficking involving minor children.
- (b) Current penalties in Colorado law with parole possible in as little as eight years have failed to adequately deter the human trafficking of minor children.
- (c) It is the measure of a fair and compassionate society to ensure that children are not for sale.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-3-504, **amend** (2)(a) and (2)(b); and **add** (5) and (6) as follows:

18-3-504. Human trafficking for sexual servitude - human trafficking of a minor for sexual servitude.

(2) (a) A person commits human trafficking of a minor for sexual servitude if the person:

(I) Knowingly sells, recruits, harbors, transports, transfers, isolates, entices, provides, receives, obtains by any means, maintains, or makes available a minor for the purpose of commercial sexual activity;
~~or~~

(II) Knowingly advertises, offers to sell, or sells travel services that facilitate an activity prohibited pursuant to subsection (2)(a)(I) of this section; OR

(III) KNOWINGLY TRADES ANYTHING OF MONETARY VALUE TO BUY OR SELL SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH A MINOR.

(b) Human trafficking of a minor for sexual servitude is a class ~~2~~ 1 felony. The court shall sentence a person convicted of such a class ~~2~~ 1 felony to the department of corrections for a term of ~~at least the minimum of the presumptive range for a class 2 felony~~, LIFE IN PRISON WITHOUT PAROLE OR RELEASE, as set forth in section 18-1.3-401.

(5) NOTHING IN THIS STATUTE SHALL LIMIT A GOVERNOR'S STANDING AUTHORITY OF PARDON, COMMUTATION, OR CLEMENCY.

(6) THIS SECTION IS KNOWN AS THE "CHILDREN ARE NOT FOR SALE ACT."

SECTION 3. Effective date -- applicability. This act takes effect on January 1, 2027 and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.