

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 1324

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H.P. 976

House of Representatives, March 30, 2021

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services  
To Conduct an Assessment of Human Trafficking in the State**

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, MEYER of Eliot, RECKITT of South Portland, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: BREEN of Cumberland.

1           **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to study information**  
2 **relating to human trafficking. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human  
3 Services shall research and study data regarding sex trafficking of minors and adults in the  
4 State and create a human trafficking needs assessment patterned on the human trafficking  
5 needs assessment produced in 2015 by Hornby Zeller Associates, Inc. for the Maine  
6 Coalition Against Sexual Assault. The department shall conduct the study and draft the  
7 assessment with the assistance of law enforcement agencies, judicial resources and  
8 nonprofit and other organizations with an interest in preventing sex trafficking. The  
9 department may use its own funding or seek other funding to carry out the purposes of this  
10 resolve.

11           **Sec. 2. Information to be studied. Resolved:** That, in developing the assessment  
12 under section 1, the Department of Health and Human Services shall include the following  
13 information in its research and study:

- 14           1. A profile of victims of sex trafficking, including:
  - 15           A. Race;
  - 16           B. Gender;
  - 17           C. Age range;
  - 18           D. Rural or urban living situation;
  - 19           E. History of sexual abuse or domestic violence;
  - 20           F. Absence of a supportive caregiver; and
  - 21           G. Drug use;
- 22           2. Data on sex trafficking in the State, including:
  - 23           A. The prevalence of sex trafficking and number of cases annually;
  - 24           B. The prevalence of labor trafficking;
  - 25           C. The percentage of law enforcement officers who have been involved in a sex  
26 trafficking case in the previous year;
  - 27           D. The percentage of law enforcement officers who are not familiar with an  
28 organization in the State addressing human trafficking; and
  - 29           E. The percentage of law enforcement officers who believe that the officers' respective  
30 departments are prepared to address sex trafficking cases involving minors;
- 31           3. Data on the reentry of victims and prevention of sex trafficking, including:
  - 32           A. The services that are being received and by whom;
  - 33           B. The percentage of victims and survivors receiving services;
  - 34           C. The prevalence of family reunification;
  - 35           D. The rate of homelessness;
  - 36           E. Access to health insurance and health care; and
  - 37           F. The rate of incarceration of traffickers and victims; and
- 38           4. Other benchmarks that the department determines necessary.

