

2017 SENATE JUDICIARY

SB 2290

# 2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Judiciary Committee**  
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

SB 2290  
1/31/2017  
27632

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



## Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to the authority of the human trafficking commission.

**Minutes:**                      **Testimony attached #**

1

**Chairman Armstrong** called the committee to order on SB 2290. All committee members were present.

**Senator Luick** introduced the bill.

**Christina Sambor, Director of FUSE (a Force to End Human Sexual Exploitation) and former Director of the North Dakota Human Trafficking Task Force**, testified in support of the bill. (see attachment 1)

**Senator Luick:** "Is there a fiscal note to this?"

**Christina Sambor:** "No. There is no funding associated with the commission."

**Senator Osland:** "Could you explain what the task force and the commission are?"

**Christina Sambor** described the what the task force is.

"During the 2015 session there was a piece of legislation that established a commission for the office of the Attorney General to be focused on human trafficking. So when that legislation passed, it established a commission of 15-20 folks of various disciplines and so it was a lot of different types of groups that came together to focus on any issues on a state wide basis that need attention about the issues of human trafficking. That is what the Attorney General's Commission is.

The task force was established in 2015 through funding from the Department of Justice as well as donations from private entities and a couple of other sources. It created a formal service network in the state of North Dakota on human trafficking and a supportive structure for law enforcement investigations and established a comprehensive victim-services plan."

**Troy Seibel, Chief Deputy Attorney General**, briefly testified in support of the bill. No written testimony.

“I just want to say that the Attorney General’s Office is in favor of the bill and I agree with its goal. This bill creates a better road map going forward to combat human trafficking.”

**Chairman Armstrong** closed the hearing on SB 2290.

**Senator Myrdal** motioned a Do Pass. **Senator Larson** seconded.

A Roll Call Vote was taken. Yea: 6 Nay: 0 Absent: 0.  
The motion carried.

**Senator Luick** carried the bill.

**2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2290**

Senate Judiciary Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation:  Adopt Amendment  
 Do Pass  Do Not Pass  Without Committee Recommendation  
 As Amended  Rerefer to Appropriations  
 Place on Consent Calendar  
Other Actions:  Reconsider  \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Senator Myrdal Seconded By Senator Larson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Armstrong	X		Senator Osland	X	
Vice-Chair Larson	X				
Senator Luick	X				
Senator Myrdal	X				
Senator Nelson	X				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Luick

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2290: Judiciary Committee (Sen. Armstrong, Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS**  
(6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2290 was placed on the  
Eleventh order on the calendar.

**2017 HOUSE JUDICIARY**

**SB 2290**

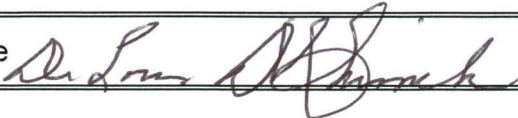
# 2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Judiciary Committee  
Prairie Room, State Capitol

SB 2290  
3/14/2017  
29159

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



## Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to the authority of the human trafficking commission.

Minutes:

1

**Chairman K. Koppelman:** Opened the hearing on SB 2290.

**Senator Luick:** Introduced the bill. It is for the authority of the Attorney General to establish a human trafficking commission. They are here behind me and will go through the details of the bill.

**Troy Seibold, Chief Deputy Attorney General's office:** This bill is a cleanup bill. I have had the honor of serving on both of these bodies. There is overlap between the human trafficking task force and the Attorney General's human trafficking commission. I have served on both bodies and they do great work. This bill eliminates a couple of things that the task force is already doing so that way the commission does not have to do it under the statute. The Attorney General stands in support of this bill.

**Representative Magrum:** You are a whole separate department from the human trafficking team?

**Troy Seibold:** Our human trafficking task force was a federal state partnership. It is supported by federal grants. Our human trafficking commission is a separate body. The Attorney General brought folks all around the state government and state agencies.

**Representative Magrum:** So you are funded by the federal government.

**Troy Seibold:** We receive no federal money. We did make recommendations to the Attorney General on some of the grantees that applied for the grants that were applied for. We do try and work together. The commission does not receive any federal funds.

**Chairman K. Koppelman:** The task force is federally funded.

**Representative Klemin:** On the bill there are a couple areas that are being deleted. Is that because that is work done by the task force? What is left; to collect data and make reports and promote three different areas. What does this commission do?

**Troy Seibold:** It serves in an advisory capacity. It is a funnel to the attorney general and the legislature to report back to the legislature to report back to this body what is happening with human trafficking in the state.

**Representative Klemin:** How many people are on this commission?

**Troy Seibold:** About 20-25?

**Representative Klemin:** How often to you meet?

**Troy Seibold:** We meet probably quarterly; sometimes semiannually; it is not very frequent. We are probably going to make it at least semiannually if not quarterly.

**Representative Jones:** Is there ongoing communication going on with this?

**Troy Seibold:** We are subject to open meetings law. We do have several subcommittees we have created. The body itself does not communicate with one another unless it is in a noticed meeting.

**Chairman K. Koppelman:** Why do we need both the task force and the commission?

**Troy Seibold:** This is an important area for the Attorney General so as a result of that he asked the body to appoint and supervise and that is the reason for the commission. This body serves as a way for him to get involved and to do what he feels necessary to insure this problem is being addressed in the state.

**Representative Klemin:** One of the things the commission is supposed to do is submit a report to the Attorney General. Can we get copies of those reports?

**Troy Seibold:** I will have to check to see what we have put together.

**Chairman K. Koppelman:** I think it would be important to put something together and get that report to us.

**Troy Seibold:** You might be correct. Now we are finally getting a years' worth of data.

**Christina Sambor, Director of FUSE:** (#1) Went over testimony. (11:12) Regarding your question of do you need more than one; the application for the task force came after the last legislative session so we created the Attorney General's commission; and then six months later got federal funding and we have an advisory board over that. If you look at the statute, there is language in there that says the Attorney General may establish the commission by appointing an existing state-wide coalition. That is in the existing code. We did not want to

have duplication so that is why we want to loosen up the requirements of the AG's commission.

**Chairman K. Koppelman:** The language is permissive. Should we consolidate those two and talk to you later?

**Christina Sambor:** Maybe you could allow me to follow back up with the committee on that?

**Representative Jones:** I am curious about the operation of this commission as it interacts with your agency. I am concerned you only have formal meetings periodically. Would it help to have dialoged going on between meetings?

**Christina Sambor:** We are doing that now among the direct service providers. Now of use like unproductive meetings.

Opposition: None

Neutral: None

Hearing closed.

# 2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Judiciary Committee  
Prairie Room, State Capitol

SB 2290  
3/14/2017  
29198

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



**Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:**

**Minutes:**

**Chairman K. Koppelman:** Opened the meeting on SB 2290.

**Do Pass Motion Made by Rep. Hanson; Seconded by Rep. Satrom.**

Discussion:

**Representative Klemin:** I am disappointed on how this commission has been operating. We have 20-25 people that meet maybe 2-4 times a year. There is a mandatory reporting system requirement that wasn't done; they want to change the shall to may so that they have the option to do nothing. I can see where taken out some stuff because of the overlap of the task force is appropriate; but the rest of it is just to promote certain things. Makes me wonder why we have this commission? I am going to oppose the do pass motion for those reasons. I would be more inclined to vote for it if it said the committee shall.

**Chairman K. Koppelman:** I specifically asked the question about whether there was duplication and whether we needed both. At some point we probably don't, but the task force was basically the federal portion of the initiative where the commission is really the state initiative. I feel a lot more comfortable with our state folks doing stuff than waiting for the federal government to do it. We also heard these folks aren't paid. This is entirely a volunteer effort so there is no fiscal on the bill or cost to the commission.

**Representative Hanson:** The subcommittees within the greater human trafficking commission do meet more frequently than the entire body. What I like about the human trafficking commission is that it seems to be very multi-disciplinary so we are approaching it from a variety of angles and providing direction.

**Do Pass Motion by Rep. Hanson; Seconded by Rep. Satrom – Withdrawn.**

**Motion Made to amend SB2290, page 1, line 13 to remove the overstrike over shall and delete the underlined word may so it says the commission shall by Rep. Klemin; Seconded by Johnston.**

Discussion:

**Voice Vote Carried.**

**Do Pass as Amended Motion Made by Rep. Hanson; Seconded by Rep. Vetter**

**Roll Call Vote:            12 Yes      0 No            3 Absent    Carrier: Rep. Hanson**

**Representative Klemin:** As I said in the discussion I don't object to this bill, but I do object to the legislature saying you shall provide us with a report and then it is not provided. I hope that the members of this commission take that to heart and get us that report that was supposed to have been done already as well as provide the next one when it is due.

**Representative Jones:** I am confused on the open records criteria. I asked him if they had communication on going in between their meetings seems like a topic such as this needs to have somebody that is passionate about it. There should be a communication going on all the time with these people talking and answering questions and discussing this. I am confused how that interferes with the open records of meetings laws. It seems like we should have an activity going on more than a few times a year.

**Chairman K. Koppelman:** The subcommittees that are meeting are meeting more frequently so there should be records and information available. This was a work in progress two years ago. We are past that now, but we need some information and reports.

Closed.

3/14/17 DA

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Title.02000

Adopted by the Judiciary Committee

March 14, 2017

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2290

Page 1, line 13, remove the overstrike over "shall"

Page 1, line 13, remove "may"

Renumber accordingly

**2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2290**

House   **Judiciary**   Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description:   **page 1, line 13 to remove the overstrike over shall and delete the underlined word may so it says the commission shall**  

Recommendation:    Adopt Amendment  
                            Do Pass    Do Not Pass    Without Committee Recommendation  
                            As Amended                            Rerefer to Appropriations  
                            Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions:        Reconsider                            \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By   Rep. Klemin   Seconded By   Rep. Johnston  

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman K. Koppelman			Rep. Hanson		
Vice Chairman Karls			Rep. Nelson		
Rep. Blum					
Rep. Johnston					
Rep. Jones					
Rep. Klemin					
Rep. Magrum					
Rep. Maragos					
Rep. Paur					
Rep. Roers-Jones					
Rep. Satrom					
Rep. Simons					
Rep. Vetter					

0  
Total   (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Assignment   Rep.  

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**Voice vote carried.**



**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2290: Judiciary Committee (Rep. K. Koppelman, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2290 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 13, remove the overstrike over "shall"

Page 1, line 13, remove "may"

Renumber accordingly

**2017 TESTIMONY**

**SB 2290**

**SB 2290**

**Senate Judiciary Committee**

**Testimony of Christina Sambor, Director of FUSE and former Director of the North Dakota Human Trafficking Task Force in support  
January 31, 2017**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I come before you today to offer testimony in support of SB 2290. The amendments in this bill were drafted in consultation with the Attorney General to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the various statewide groups addressing human trafficking in North Dakota. After the close of the 2015 Legislative Session, the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation, CAWS North Dakota and the US Attorney's Office of North Dakota came together, along with federal law enforcement agencies and several non-profit agencies, to apply for funding from the US Department of Justice to establish the North Dakota Human Trafficking Task Force ("NDHTTF"). The application was successful, and the NDHTTF was established in the late fall of 2015.

As part of its structure, the NDHTTF also has an Advisory Board in place, and funds several direct service staff positions. Because of the establishment of the NDHTTF, and the fact that it has funding and staff, several of the tasks that were originally included in the scope of work for the Attorney General's Commission were taken over by the NDHTTF. These include: 1) development of a comprehensive victim service plan, 2) creation of outreach materials, and 3) funding and coordinating training for direct service providers and law enforcement.

As a result, SB 2290 helps clear up some of the overlap between the NDHTTF and the Attorney General's Commission, helping to ensure that each body is engaging in productive, non-duplicative work. Therefore, I urge a "do pass" recommendation for SB 2290.

#1  
2290  
3-14-17

**SB 2290**

**House Judiciary Committee**

**Testimony of Christina Sambor, Director of FUSE and former Director of the North Dakota Human Trafficking Task Force in support**

**March 14, 2017**

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