



From the Offices of Representative Thủy Trần, Senator Kathleen Taylor

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Press Contact:

Office of Rep. Trần, Rep.ThuyTran@oregonlegislature.gov

Office of Sen. Taylor, Sen.KathleenTaylor@oregonlegislature.gov

Oregon House Votes to Prevent Human Trafficking in Illicit Massage Businesses

SALEM, Ore. - Today, the Oregon House passed [HB 3819-A](#). The bill cracks down on human trafficking by empowering the State Board of Massage Therapists to post violation placards, levy higher fines, and increase criminal penalties for illicit operations. The bill also adds licensed massage therapists to Oregon's mandatory reporters list and creates temporary practice permits for out-of-state practitioners, strengthening both enforcement and consumer protection.

“With this bill, I am responding to the call of my community that human trafficking must not continue in our backyard.” said **Representative Thủy Trần (D-Portland)**. “By giving the Board new authority and stronger enforcement tools, we can begin to shut down these illegal operations, while supporting legitimate massage therapists, and ensuring survivors get the help they deserve. These criminal enterprises do not belong in our state.”

Under [HB 3819-A](#), the Board may impose civil penalties up to \$5,000 per violation up from \$1,000. The Board may also place a visible placard on unlicensed businesses proven to be engaged in criminal activity, warning away unwitting consumers. Additionally, repeat offenders may be charged with a Class C felony, up from a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$125,000 fine. The bill also requires licensed massage therapists to report suspected abuse as mandatory reporters.

“We’re not going to sit by and let criminals operate unchecked in our communities, and we’re not turning our backs on the women being trafficked and abused in these illegal facilities,” said **Senator Kathleen Taylor (D-Portland)**, co-chief-sponsor of the bill. “Representative Tran’s work on this issue is going to make a difference.”

Human trafficking in the massage industry is the second most reported form of trafficking to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, generating over \$5 billion annually in illicit revenue while exploiting victims in deplorable conditions. [HB 3819-A](#) targets this underground network, deterring criminal operators and safeguarding public health and safety.

[HB 3819-A](#) passed the full House floor with a vote of 51- 2 and now moves to the Oregon Senate for consideration.

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