

ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR S.C.R. 1021

sex trafficking; minors; natural life

<u>Purpose</u>

Subject to voter approval, constitutionally requires an adult who is convicted of *sex trafficking of a minor child* to be sentenced to natural life imprisonment.

Background

A person commits *child sex trafficking* by knowingly: 1) causing any minor to engage in prostitution; 2) using any minor for the purposes of prostitution; 3) permitting a minor who is under the person's custody or control to engage in prostitution; 4) receiving any benefit for or on account of procuring or placing a minor in any place or in the charge or custody of any person for the purpose of prostitution; 5) receiving any benefit pursuant to an agreement to participate in the proceeds of prostitution of a minor; 6) financing, managing, supervising, controlling or owning, either alone or in association with others, prostitution activity involving a minor; 7) transporting or financing the transportation of any minor with the intent that the minor engage in prostitution; 8) providing a means by which a minor engages in prostitution; 9) enticing, recruiting, harboring, providing, transporting, making available to another or otherwise obtaining a minor with the intent to cause the minor to engage in prostitution or any sexually explicit performance; or 10) enticing, recruiting, harboring, providing, transporting, making available to another or otherwise obtaining a minor with the knowledge that the minor will engage in prostitution or any sexually explicit performance.

Child sex trafficking, with limited exceptions, is classified as a class 2 felony and is punishable as a dangerous crime against children (DCAC). The sentence for *child sex trafficking* depends on certain factors, including the age of the victim, the nature of the offense, and whether the defendant has any predicate felonies or historical prior felonies. Generally, a person convicted of child sex trafficking faces a presumptive prison sentence of 20 years, up to natural life in prison if the person has previously been convicted of *child sex trafficking* or a DCAC (A.R.S. §§ 13-705 and 13-3212).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

- 1. Requires an adult who is convicted of *sex trafficking of a minor child* to be sentenced to natural life imprisonment.
- 2. Defines sex trafficking of a minor child as knowingly paying for sex with a minor, receiving payment for placing a minor in another person's custody with intent to cause the minor to

FACT SHEET S.C.R. 1021 Page 2

engage in sex with another person, or providing or obtaining a minor with intent to cause the minor to engage in sex with another person.

- 3. Allows the Legislature to administer constitutional requirements relating to *sex trafficking of a minor child*.
- 4. Requires the Secretary of State to submit the proposition to the voters at the next general election.
- 5. Becomes effective if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor.

Prepared by Senate Research February 5, 2024 ZD/cs