



**TULARE COUNTY
HUMAN TRAFFICKING
TASK FORCE**

March 15, 2022

Senator Shannon Grove
1021 O Street, Room 7150
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Grove:

I, Tulare County Human Trafficking Task Force Coordinator, write in support of your legislation, SB 1042. This important bill will include human trafficking in the lists of crimes that are defined as serious and violent under California law, making the crime a strike under the Three Strikes law. It will also help strengthen protections for the millions of victims of sex and labor trafficking.

Here in Tulare County, the Task Force has identified over 100 victims of Human Trafficking and we know we are one of many counties working to ensure justice for these victims in our state. This is an ever growing, horrific crime that needs to appropriately hold perpetrators accountable. The California Attorney General notes that California is one of the largest sites for human trafficking in the United States, recognizes the serious nature of this crime, and has defined it as "modern day slavery." It is a form of exploitation that profits from the abuse of our most vulnerable populations.

SB 1042 will give a voice to the millions of victims that have suffered from this horrific abuse. This bill will fight to protect victims, strengthen prevention and increase the prosecution of those who buy and sell human beings. It is about time that California starts to prosecute these horrendous acts as serious and violent crimes.

For all of the reasons stated above, I support SB 1042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Amend". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelly Amend
Tulare County Human Trafficking Task Force
Task Force Coordinator