

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 224

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MYERS.

0556H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 190.142, 210.1505, 211.326, 324.035, 337.618, 455.010, 455.035, 455.513, 491.075, 491.641, 492.304, 566.151, 567.030, 590.050, and 610.131, RSMo, and section 56.265 as enacted by senate bill no. 672, ninety-seventh general assembly, second regular session, and section 56.265 as enacted by senate bill no. 275, ninetieth general assembly, first regular session, and to enact in lieu thereof twenty new sections relating to the protection of vulnerable persons, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 190.142, 210.1505, 211.326, 324.035, 337.618, 455.010, 455.035, 455.513, 491.075, 491.641, 492.304, 566.151, 567.030, 590.050, and 610.131, RSMo, and section 56.265 as enacted by senate bill no. 672, ninety-seventh general assembly, second regular session, and section 56.265 as enacted by senate bill no. 275, ninetieth general assembly, first regular session, are repealed and twenty new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 27.170, 56.265, 190.142, 210.1505, 211.326, 324.035, 337.618, 455.010, 455.035, 455.513, 491.075, 491.641, 492.304, 556.039, 566.151, 566.207, 567.030, 589.700, 590.050, and 610.131, to read as follows:

27.170. 1. There is hereby established the "Committee on Sex and Human Trafficking Training".

2. The committee shall consist of the following members:

(1) A representative of the attorney general's office who is involved in the office's anti-trafficking efforts appointed by the attorney general;

(2) A representative of the department of public safety with experience in human trafficking investigations appointed by the director of the department of public safety;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

8 (3) A representative from a child advocacy center appointed by the director of a
 9 statewide nonprofit organization that advocates for the protection of children;

10 (4) A juvenile officer appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court of
 11 Missouri;

12 (5) A representative from an agency providing victim services appointed by the
 13 director of the department of social services;

14 (6) A representative from a child abuse medical resource center, as defined in
 15 section 334.950, appointed by the director of the department of health and senior
 16 services; and

17 (7) The executive director of the Missouri office of prosecution services or his or
 18 her designee.

19 3. The member who represents the attorney general's office shall serve as chair
 20 of the committee.

21 4. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation but may be
 22 reimbursed for actual expenses necessary to the performance of their official duties for
 23 the committee.

24 5. The committee shall annually evaluate, and establish guidelines for, the sex
 25 and human trafficking training required under sections 56.265, 190.142, 211.326,
 26 337.618, and 590.050. The committee shall produce, and distribute in a digital platform,
 27 training that meets its guidelines. The committee may approve training produced by
 28 other entities as consistent with its guidelines.

29 6. Any board, department, or agency that regulates any profession for which sex
 30 and human trafficking training is required as described in subsection 5 of this section
 31 may provide such training. Funding for the training shall be subject to appropriations.

32 7. The provisions of this section shall become effective on January 1, 2026, and
 33 shall expire on December 31, 2030.

2 ~~[56.265. 1. The county prosecuting attorney in any county, other than~~
 3 ~~in a chartered county, shall receive an annual salary computed using the~~
 4 ~~following schedule, when applicable. The assessed valuation factor shall be~~
 5 ~~the amount thereof as shown for the year immediately preceding the year for~~
 6 ~~which the computation is done.~~

7 ~~(1) For a full time prosecutor the prosecutor shall receive~~
 8 ~~compensation equal to the compensation of an associate circuit judge;~~

9 ~~(2) For a part time prosecutor:~~

Assessed Valuation	Amount
\$18,000,000 to 40,999,999	\$37,000
41,000,000 to 53,999,999	38,000
54,000,000 to 65,999,999	39,000

13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

66,000,000 to 85,999,999	41,000
86,000,000 to 99,999,999	43,000
100,000,000 to 130,999,999	45,000
131,000,000 to 159,999,999	47,000
160,000,000 to 189,999,999	49,000
190,000,000 to 249,999,999	51,000
250,000,000 to 299,999,999	53,000
300,000,000 or more	55,000

~~2. Two thousand dollars of the salary authorized in this section shall be payable to the prosecuting attorney only if the prosecuting attorney has completed at least twenty hours of classroom instruction each calendar year relating to the operations of the prosecuting attorney's office when approved by a professional association of the county prosecuting attorneys of Missouri unless exempted from the training by the professional association. The professional association approving the program shall provide a certificate of completion to each prosecuting attorney who completes the training program and shall send a list of certified prosecuting attorneys to the treasurer of each county. Expenses incurred for attending the training session may be reimbursed to the county prosecuting attorney in the same manner as other expenses as may be appropriated for that purpose.~~

~~3. As used in this section, the term "prosecuting attorney" includes the circuit attorney of any city not within a county.~~

~~4. The prosecuting attorney of any county which becomes a county of the first classification during a four year term of office or a county which passed the proposition authorized by subsection 1 of section 56.363 shall not be required to devote full time to such office pursuant to section 56.067 until the beginning of the prosecuting attorney's next term of office or until the proposition otherwise becomes effective.~~

~~5. The provisions of section 56.066 shall not apply to full-time prosecutors who are compensated pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of this section.]~~

56.265. 1. The county prosecuting attorney in any county, other than in a chartered county, shall receive an annual salary computed using the following schedule, when applicable. The assessed valuation factor shall be the amount thereof as shown for the year immediately preceding the year for which the computation is done.

(1) For a full-time prosecutor the prosecutor shall receive compensation equal to the compensation of an associate circuit judge;

(2) For a part-time prosecutor:

Assessed Valuation	Amount
\$18,000,000 to 40,999,999	\$37,000

8
9

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19

41,000,000 to 53,999,999	38,000
54,000,000 to 65,999,999	39,000
66,000,000 to 85,999,999	41,000
86,000,000 to 99,999,999	43,000
100,000,000 to 130,999,999	45,000
131,000,000 to 159,999,999	47,000
160,000,000 to 189,999,999	49,000
190,000,000 to 249,999,999	51,000
250,000,000 to 299,999,999	53,000
300,000,000 or more	55,000

20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34

2. Two thousand dollars of the salary authorized in this section shall be payable to the prosecuting attorney only if the prosecuting attorney has completed:

(1) At least twenty hours of classroom instruction each calendar year relating to the operations of the prosecuting attorney's office when approved by a professional association of the county prosecuting attorneys of Missouri unless exempted from the training by the professional association. The professional association approving the program shall provide a certificate of completion to each prosecuting attorney who completes the training program and shall send a list of certified prosecuting attorneys to the treasurer of each county. Expenses incurred for attending the training session may be reimbursed to the county prosecuting attorney in the same manner as other expenses as may be appropriated for that purpose; and

(2) **One hour of sex and human trafficking training each calendar year consistent with the guidelines established in section 27.170. The provisions of this subdivision shall become effective on January 1, 2026, and shall expire on December 31, 2030.**

35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

3. As used in this section, the term "prosecuting attorney" includes the circuit attorney of any city not within a county.

4. The prosecuting attorney of any county which becomes a county of the first classification during a four-year term of office or a county which passed the proposition authorized by section 56.363 shall not be required to devote full time to such office pursuant to section 56.067 until the beginning of the prosecuting attorney's next term of office or until the proposition otherwise becomes effective.

5. The provisions of section 56.066 shall not apply to full-time prosecutors who are compensated pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of this section.

190.142. 1. (1) For applications submitted before the recognition of EMS personnel licensure interstate compact under sections 190.900 to 190.939 takes effect, the department

2

3 shall, within a reasonable time after receipt of an application, cause such investigation as it
4 deems necessary to be made of the applicant for an emergency medical technician's license.

5 (2) For applications submitted after the recognition of EMS personnel licensure
6 interstate compact under sections 190.900 to 190.939 takes effect, an applicant for initial
7 licensure as an emergency medical technician in this state shall submit to a background check
8 by the Missouri state highway patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation through a
9 process approved by the department of health and senior services. Such processes may
10 include the use of vendors or systems administered by the Missouri state highway patrol. The
11 department may share the results of such a criminal background check with any emergency
12 services licensing agency in any member state, as that term is defined under section 190.900,
13 in recognition of the EMS personnel licensure interstate compact. The department shall not
14 issue a license until the department receives the results of an applicant's criminal background
15 check from the Missouri state highway patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but,
16 notwithstanding this subsection, the department may issue a temporary license as provided
17 under section 190.143. Any fees due for a criminal background check shall be paid by the
18 applicant.

19 (3) The director may authorize investigations into criminal records in other states for
20 any applicant.

21 2. The department shall issue a license to all levels of emergency medical technicians,
22 for a period of five years, if the applicant meets the requirements established pursuant to
23 sections 190.001 to 190.245 and the rules adopted by the department pursuant to sections
24 190.001 to 190.245. The department may promulgate rules relating to the requirements for an
25 emergency medical technician including but not limited to:

26 (1) Age requirements;

27 (2) Emergency medical technician and paramedic education and training
28 requirements based on respective National Emergency Medical Services Education
29 Standards and any modification to such curricula specified by the department through rules
30 adopted pursuant to sections 190.001 to 190.245;

31 (3) Paramedic accreditation requirements. Paramedic training programs shall be
32 accredited as required by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians;

33 (4) Initial licensure testing requirements. Initial paramedic licensure testing shall be
34 through the national registry of EMTs;

35 (5) (a) Continuing education and relicensure requirements.

36 (b) a. **The department shall require each emergency medical technician and**
37 **each advanced emergency medical technician, including each paramedic, to receive the**
38 **following training as part of the continuing education requirements for relicensure:**

39 (i) Any licensee who submits an application for relicensure before January 1,
40 2027, shall have completed one hour of sex and human trafficking training, consistent
41 with the guidelines established in section 27.170, before such submission;

42 (ii) Any licensee who submits an application for relicensure after December 31,
43 2026, and before January 1, 2028, shall have completed two hours of sex and human
44 trafficking training, consistent with the guidelines established in section 27.170, before
45 such submission;

46 (iii) Any licensee who submits an application for relicensure after December 31,
47 2027, and before January 1, 2029, shall have completed three hours of sex and human
48 trafficking training, consistent with the guidelines established in section 27.170, before
49 such submission; and

50 (iv) Any licensee who submits an application for relicensure after December 31,
51 2028, and before January 1, 2030, shall have completed four hours of sex and human
52 trafficking training, consistent with the guidelines established in section 27.170, before
53 such submission.

54 b. The provisions of this paragraph shall become effective on January 1, 2026,
55 and shall expire on December 31, 2030; and

56 (6) Ability to speak, read and write the English language.

57 3. Application for all levels of emergency medical technician license shall be made
58 upon such forms as prescribed by the department in rules adopted pursuant to sections
59 190.001 to 190.245. The application form shall contain such information as the department
60 deems necessary to make a determination as to whether the emergency medical technician
61 meets all the requirements of sections 190.001 to 190.245 and rules promulgated pursuant to
62 sections 190.001 to 190.245.

63 4. All levels of emergency medical technicians may perform only that patient care
64 which is:

65 (1) Consistent with the training, education and experience of the particular emergency
66 medical technician; and

67 (2) Ordered by a physician or set forth in protocols approved by the medical director.

68 5. No person shall hold themselves out as an emergency medical technician or
69 provide the services of an emergency medical technician unless such person is licensed by the
70 department.

71 6. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is
72 created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies
73 with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028.
74 This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the
75 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to

76 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
77 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2002, shall be invalid
78 and void.

210.1505. 1. There is hereby created the "Statewide Council ~~[on Sex]~~ **Against Adult**
2 **Trafficking and the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**" ~~[to]~~ **within the office of**
3 **the attorney general to make recommendations for a coordinated statewide effort**
4 **against the trafficking of adults and children within the state of Missouri. The council**
5 **shall** consist of the following members:

6 (1) ~~[The following four members of the general assembly:~~

7 ~~(a) Two members of the senate, with one member to be appointed by the president pro~~
8 ~~tempore of the senate and one member to be appointed by the minority floor leader of the~~
9 ~~senate; and~~

10 ~~(b) Two members of the house of representatives, with one member to be appointed~~
11 ~~by the speaker of the house of representatives and one member to be appointed by the~~
12 ~~minority floor leader of the house of representatives]~~ **The attorney general or his or her**
13 **designee, who shall serve as the chair of the council;**

14 (2) The director of the children's division or his or her designee;

15 (3) The director of the department of public safety or his or her designee;

16 (4) The director of the department of mental health or his or her designee;

17 (5) The director of the office of prosecution services or his or her designee;

18 (6) The superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol or his or her designee;

19 (7) The executive director of the statewide network of child advocacy organizations
20 ~~[specializing in the prevention of child abuse or neglect]~~ or his or her designee;

21 (8) The executive director of the statewide coalition against domestic and sexual
22 violence or his or her designee;

23 (9) The executive director of the Missouri Juvenile Justice Association or his or her
24 designee;

25 (10) The director of the attorney general's human trafficking task force or his or her
26 designee;

27 (11) Two representatives from agencies providing services to victims of child sex
28 trafficking and sexual exploitation ~~[who reflect the geographic diversity of the state and who~~
29 ~~shall be appointed by the director of the department of social services]; [and]~~

30 (12) **Two members of the senate to be appointed by the president pro tempore of**
31 **the senate;**

32 (13) **Two members of the house of representatives to be appointed by the speaker**
33 **of the house of representatives;**

34 **(14)** A member of the judiciary, who shall be appointed by the **Missouri** supreme
35 court;

36 **(15)** The commissioner of the department of elementary and secondary
37 education or his or her designee;

38 **(16)** A designee from the governor's office;

39 **(17)** Two human trafficking survivors identified by a children's advocacy center
40 who are willing to serve on the council; and

41 **(18)** A representative from any other government or nongovernment
42 organization deemed necessary by the attorney general.

43 2. A majority of the members of the council shall constitute a quorum. The council
44 shall **be created within thirty days of August 28, 2025, and shall** hold its first meeting
45 within thirty days after the council's creation [~~and organize by selecting a chair and a vice~~
46 ~~chair~~]. The council shall meet at [~~the call of the chair~~] **least quarterly. The council may**
47 **create a subgroup to offer recommendations on specific issues as deemed necessary.**

48 3. [~~The council shall:~~

49 ~~(1) Collect and analyze data relating to sex trafficking and sexual exploitation of~~
50 ~~children, including the number of reports made to the children's division under section~~
51 ~~210.115, any information obtained from phone calls to the national sex trafficking hotline, the~~
52 ~~number of reports made to law enforcement, arrests, prosecution rates, and any other data~~
53 ~~important for any recommendations of the council. State departments and council members~~
54 ~~shall provide relevant data as requested by the council to fulfill the council's duties; and~~

55 ~~(2) Collect feedback from stakeholders, practitioners, and leadership throughout the~~
56 ~~state in order to develop best practices and procedures regarding the response to sex~~
57 ~~trafficking and sexual exploitation of children, including identification and assessment of~~
58 ~~victims; response and treatment coordination and collaboration across systems; trauma-~~
59 ~~informed, culturally competent victim-centered services; training for professionals in all~~
60 ~~systems; and investigating and prosecuting perpetrators.~~

61 ~~4. The department of social services shall provide administrative support to the~~
62 ~~council.~~

63 ~~5. On or before December 31, 2023, the council shall submit a report of the council's~~
64 ~~activities to the governor and general assembly and the joint committee on child abuse and~~
65 ~~neglect under section 21.771. The report shall include recommendations for priority needs~~
66 ~~and actions, including statutory or regulatory changes relating to the response to sex~~
67 ~~trafficking and sexual exploitation of children and services for child victims.~~

68 ~~6. The council shall expire on December 31, 2023]~~ **There shall be an executive**
69 **director who shall be appointed by the attorney general who shall fix his or her**
70 **compensation and provide for such other administrative personnel as necessary within**

71 **the limits of appropriations provided in subsection 4 of this section. The executive**
72 **director shall serve under the supervision of the attorney general who shall provide**
73 **necessary office space.**

74 **4. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Anti-Trafficking Fund",**
75 **which shall consist of moneys appropriated to it by the general assembly and any grants,**
76 **gifts, donations, and bequests. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In**
77 **accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve**
78 **disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys**
79 **in this fund shall be used solely to pay for the position of the executive director of the**
80 **statewide council against adult trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of**
81 **children, education and awareness regarding human trafficking, and anti-trafficking**
82 **efforts throughout the state of Missouri.**

83 **(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys**
84 **remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the**
85 **general revenue fund.**

86 **(3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as**
87 **other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be**
88 **credited to the fund.**

211.326. 1. The state courts administrator shall:

2 (1) Evaluate existing services by establishing performance standards including
3 performance standards for juvenile courts receiving diversion funds;

4 (2) Develop standards for orientation training for all new juvenile court professional
5 personnel, including juvenile officers, deputy juvenile officers and other personnel deemed
6 necessary by the state courts administrator;

7 (3) Develop standards for continuing education for existing juvenile court
8 professional personnel, including juvenile officers, deputy juvenile officers and other
9 personnel deemed necessary by the state courts administrator;

10 (4) Develop a process to evaluate services and collect relevant outcome data;

11 (5) Develop a standardized assessment form for classifying juvenile offenders; and

12 (6) Develop guidelines for juvenile court judges to use in determining the length of
13 time a child may be detained prior to informal adjustment or formal adjudication.

14 2. Standards, training and assessment forms developed pursuant to subsection 1 of
15 this section shall be developed considering racial disparities in the juvenile justice system.

16 **3. Continuing education standards established under subdivision (3) of**
17 **subsection 1 of this section shall include a requirement that each juvenile officer**
18 **annually complete one hour of sex and human trafficking training consistent with the**

19 **guidelines established in section 27.170. The provisions of this subsection shall become**
20 **effective on January 1, 2026, and shall expire on December 31, 2030.**

324.035. 1. No board, commission, or committee within the division of professional
2 registration shall utilize occupational fees, or any other fees associated with licensing
3 requirements, or contract or partner with any outside vendor or agency for the purpose of
4 offering continuing education classes **unless the continuing education program is**
5 **approved by the director of the division of professional registration and is available**
6 **to all licensees of the board, commission, or committee.**

7 2. Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude a board, commission, or
8 committee within the division of professional registration from utilizing occupational
9 licensure fees for the purpose of participating in conferences, seminars, or other outreach for
10 the purpose of communicating information to licensees with respect to changes in policy, law,
11 or regulations.

337.618. 1. Each license issued pursuant to the provisions of sections 337.600 to
2 337.689 shall expire on a renewal date established by the director. The term of licensure shall
3 be twenty-four months. The committee shall require a minimum number of thirty clock hours
4 of continuing education for renewal of a license issued pursuant to sections 337.600 to
5 337.689, including two hours of suicide assessment, referral, treatment, and management
6 training. The committee shall renew any license upon application for a renewal, completion
7 of the required continuing education hours and upon payment of the fee established by the
8 committee pursuant to the provisions of section 337.612. As provided by rule, the board may
9 waive or extend the time requirements for completion of continuing education for reasons
10 related to health, military service, foreign residency, or for other good cause. All requests for
11 waivers or extensions of time shall be made in writing and submitted to the board before the
12 renewal date.

13 **2. The hours of continuing education required for renewal of a license under this**
14 **section shall include two hours of sex and human trafficking training consistent with the**
15 **guidelines established in section 27.170. The provisions of this subsection shall become**
16 **effective on January 1, 2026, and shall expire on December 31, 2030.**

455.010. As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the
2 following terms shall mean:

3 (1) "Abuse", includes but is not limited to the occurrence of any of the following acts,
4 attempts or threats against a person who may be protected pursuant to this chapter, except
5 abuse shall not include abuse inflicted on a child by accidental means by an adult household
6 member or discipline of a child, including spanking, in a reasonable manner:

- 7 (a) "Abusing a pet", purposely or knowingly causing, attempting to cause, or
8 threatening to cause physical injury to a pet with the intent to control, punish, intimidate, or
9 distress the petitioner;
- 10 (b) "Assault", purposely or knowingly placing or attempting to place another in fear
11 of physical harm;
- 12 (c) "Battery", purposely or knowingly causing physical harm to another with or
13 without a deadly weapon;
- 14 (d) "Coercion", compelling another by force or threat of force to engage in conduct
15 from which the latter has a right to abstain or to abstain from conduct in which the person has
16 a right to engage;
- 17 (e) "Harassment", engaging in a purposeful or knowing course of conduct involving
18 more than one incident that alarms or causes distress to an adult or child and serves no
19 legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable adult or
20 child to suffer substantial emotional distress and must actually cause substantial emotional
21 distress to the petitioner or child. Such conduct might include, but is not limited to:
- 22 a. Following another about in a public place or places;
- 23 b. Peering in the window or lingering outside the residence of another; but does not
24 include constitutionally protected activity;
- 25 (f) "Sexual assault", causing or attempting to cause another to engage involuntarily in
26 any sexual act by force, threat of force, duress, or without that person's consent;
- 27 (g) "Unlawful imprisonment", holding, confining, detaining or abducting another
28 person against that person's will;
- 29 (2) "Adult", any person [~~seventeen~~] **eighteen** years of age or older or otherwise
30 emancipated;
- 31 (3) "Child", any person under [~~seventeen~~] **eighteen** years of age unless otherwise
32 emancipated;
- 33 (4) "Court", the circuit or associate circuit judge or a family court commissioner;
- 34 (5) "Domestic violence", abuse or stalking committed by a family or household
35 member, as such terms are defined in this section;
- 36 (6) "Ex parte order of protection", an order of protection issued by the court before
37 the respondent has received notice of the petition or an opportunity to be heard on it;
- 38 (7) "Family" or "household member", spouses, former spouses, any person related by
39 blood or marriage, persons who are presently residing together or have resided together in the
40 past, any person who is or has been in a continuing social relationship of a romantic or
41 intimate nature with the victim, and anyone who has a child in common regardless of whether
42 they have been married or have resided together at any time;

43 (8) "Full order of protection", an order of protection issued after a hearing on the
44 record where the respondent has received notice of the proceedings and has had an
45 opportunity to be heard;

46 (9) "Order of protection", either an ex parte order of protection or a full order of
47 protection;

48 (10) "Pending", exists or for which a hearing date has been set;

49 (11) "Pet", a living creature maintained by a household member for companionship
50 and not for commercial purposes;

51 (12) "Petitioner", a family or household member who has been a victim of domestic
52 violence, or any person who has been the victim of stalking or sexual assault, or a person
53 filing on behalf of a child pursuant to section 455.503 who has filed a verified petition
54 pursuant to the provisions of section 455.020 or section 455.505;

55 (13) "Respondent", the family or household member alleged to have committed an act
56 of domestic violence, or person alleged to have committed an act of stalking or sexual assault,
57 against whom a verified petition has been filed or a person served on behalf of a child
58 pursuant to section 455.503;

59 (14) "Sexual assault", as defined under subdivision (1) of this section;

60 (15) "Stalking", is when any person purposely engages in an unwanted course of
61 conduct that causes alarm to another person, or a person who resides together in the same
62 household with the person seeking the order of protection when it is reasonable in that
63 person's situation to have been alarmed by the conduct. As used in this subdivision:

64 (a) "Alarm", to cause fear of danger of physical harm; and

65 (b) "Course of conduct", two or more acts that serve no legitimate purpose including,
66 but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through a third party
67 follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to a person by any action,
68 method, or device.

455.035. 1. Upon the filing of a verified petition pursuant to sections 455.010 to
2 455.085 and for good cause shown in the petition, the court may immediately issue an ex
3 parte order of protection. An immediate and present danger of domestic violence to the
4 petitioner or the child on whose behalf the petition is filed shall constitute good cause for
5 purposes of this section. An ex parte order of protection entered by the court shall take effect
6 when entered and shall remain in effect until there is valid service of process and a hearing is
7 held on the motion. The court shall deny the ex parte order and dismiss the petition if the
8 petitioner is not authorized to seek relief pursuant to section 455.020.

9 2. Failure to serve an ex parte order of protection on the respondent shall not affect
10 the validity or enforceability of such order. If the respondent is less than ~~seventeen~~ **eighteen**
11 years of age, unless otherwise emancipated, service of process shall be made upon a custodial

12 parent or guardian of the respondent, or upon a guardian ad litem appointed by the court,
13 requiring that the person appear and bring the respondent before the court at the time and
14 place stated.

15 3. If an ex parte order is entered and the respondent is less than [~~seventeen~~] **eighteen**
16 years of age, the court shall transfer the case to juvenile court for a hearing on a full order of
17 protection. The court shall appoint a guardian ad litem for any such respondent not
18 represented by a parent or guardian.

455.513. 1. The court may immediately issue an ex parte order of protection upon the
2 filing of a verified petition under sections 455.500 to 455.538, for good cause shown in the
3 petition, and upon finding that:

4 (1) No prior order regarding custody involving the respondent and the child is
5 pending or has been made; or

6 (2) The respondent is less than [~~seventeen~~] **eighteen** years of age.

7
8 An immediate and present danger of domestic violence, including danger to the child's pet,
9 stalking, or sexual assault to a child shall constitute good cause for purposes of this section.
10 An ex parte order of protection entered by the court shall be in effect until the time of the
11 hearing. The court shall deny the ex parte order and dismiss the petition if the petitioner is not
12 authorized to seek relief pursuant to section 455.505.

13 2. Upon the entry of the ex parte order of protection, the court shall enter its order
14 appointing a guardian ad litem or court-appointed special advocate to represent the child
15 victim.

16 3. If the allegations in the petition would give rise to jurisdiction under section
17 211.031, the court may direct the children's division to conduct an investigation and to
18 provide appropriate services. The division shall submit a written investigative report to the
19 court and to the juvenile officer within thirty days of being ordered to do so. The report shall
20 be made available to the parties and the guardian ad litem or court-appointed special
21 advocate.

22 4. If the allegations in the petition would give rise to jurisdiction under section
23 211.031 because the respondent is less than [~~seventeen~~] **eighteen** years of age, the court may
24 issue an ex parte order and shall transfer the case to juvenile court for a hearing on a full order
25 of protection. Service of process shall be made pursuant to section 455.035.

491.075. 1. A statement made by a child under the age of [~~fourteen~~] **eighteen**, or a
2 vulnerable person, relating to an offense under chapter 565, 566, 568 or 573, performed by
3 another, not otherwise admissible by statute or court rule, is admissible in evidence in
4 criminal proceedings in the courts of this state as substantive evidence to prove the truth of
5 the matter asserted if:

6 (1) The court finds, in a hearing conducted outside the presence of the jury that the
7 time, content and circumstances of the statement provide sufficient indicia of reliability; and

8 (2) (a) The child or vulnerable person testifies at the proceedings; or

9 (b) The child or vulnerable person is unavailable as a witness; or

10 (c) The child or vulnerable person is otherwise physically available as a witness but
11 the court finds that the significant emotional or psychological trauma which would result
12 from testifying in the personal presence of the defendant makes the child or vulnerable person
13 unavailable as a witness at the time of the criminal proceeding.

14 2. Notwithstanding subsection 1 of this section or any provision of law or rule of
15 evidence requiring corroboration of statements, admissions or confessions of the defendant,
16 and notwithstanding any prohibition of hearsay evidence, a statement by a child when under
17 the age of [~~fourteen~~] **eighteen**, or a vulnerable person, who is alleged to be victim of an
18 offense under chapter 565, 566, 568 or 573 is sufficient corroboration of a statement,
19 admission or confession regardless of whether or not the child or vulnerable person is
20 available to testify regarding the offense.

21 3. A statement may not be admitted under this section unless the prosecuting attorney
22 makes known to the accused or the accused's counsel his or her intention to offer the
23 statement and the particulars of the statement sufficiently in advance of the proceedings to
24 provide the accused or the accused's counsel with a fair opportunity to prepare to meet the
25 statement.

26 4. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the admissibility of statements,
27 admissions or confessions otherwise admissible by law.

28 5. For the purposes of this section, "vulnerable person" shall mean a person who, as a
29 result of an inadequately developed or impaired intelligence or a psychiatric disorder that
30 materially affects ability to function, lacks the mental capacity to consent, or whose
31 developmental level does not exceed that of an ordinary child of [~~fourteen~~] **seventeen** years
32 of age.

491.641. 1. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Pretrial Witness
2 Protection Services Fund", which shall consist of moneys collected under this section. The
3 state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180,
4 the state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and money
5 in the fund shall be used solely by the department of public safety for the purposes of witness
6 protection services pursuant to this section.

7 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys
8 remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general
9 revenue fund.

10 (3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other
11 funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to
12 the fund.

13 2. Any law enforcement agency **and any prosecuting or circuit attorney's office**
14 may provide for the security of witnesses, potential witnesses, and their immediate families in
15 criminal proceedings instituted or investigations pending against a person alleged to have
16 engaged in a violation of state law. Providing for witnesses may include provision of housing
17 facilities and for the health, safety, and welfare of such witnesses and their immediate
18 families, if testimony by such a witness might subject the witness or a member of his or her
19 immediate family to danger of bodily injury, and may continue so long as such danger exists.
20 Subject to appropriations from the general assembly for the purposes provided for in this
21 section, funds may be appropriated from the pretrial witness protection services fund.

22 3. The department of public safety may authorize funds to be disbursed to law
23 enforcement agencies **and prosecuting or circuit attorneys' offices** for the purchase, rental,
24 or modification of protected housing facilities for the purpose of this section. The law
25 enforcement agency **or prosecuting or circuit attorney's office** may contract with any
26 department of federal or state government to obtain or to provide the facilities or services to
27 carry out this section.

28 4. The department of public safety may authorize expenditures for law enforcement
29 agencies **and prosecuting or circuit attorneys' offices** to provide for the health, safety, and
30 welfare of witnesses and victims, and the families of such witnesses and victims, whenever
31 testimony from, or a willingness to testify by, such a witness or victim would place the life of
32 such person, or a member of his or her family or household, in jeopardy. ~~[A law enforcement~~
33 ~~agency shall submit an application to the department of public safety which shall include, but~~
34 ~~not necessarily be limited to:~~

35 ~~(1) Statement of conditions which qualify persons for protection;~~

36 ~~(2) Precise methods the originating agency will use to provide protection, including~~
37 ~~relocation of persons and reciprocal agreements with other law enforcement agencies;~~

38 ~~(3) Statement of the projected costs over a specified period of time;~~

39 ~~(4) If the requesting agency expects the person to provide evidence in any court of~~
40 ~~competent jurisdiction:~~

41 ~~(a) Brief statement of the anticipated evidence;~~

42 ~~(b) Certification of a reasonable belief in the person's competency to give evidence;~~

43 ~~(c) Statement of facts supporting the law enforcement agency's belief in the accuracy~~
44 ~~of the evidence; and~~

45 ~~(d) Any offer made in exchange for the person agreeing to give evidence.] Law~~
46 **enforcement agencies and prosecuting or circuit attorneys' offices seeking**

47 **reimbursement shall submit an application to be approved by the department of public**
48 **safety.**

49 5. The application **and any associated documents** submitted in subsection 4 of this
50 section shall be a closed record and not subject to disclosure under the provisions of chapter
51 610. Any information contained in the application~~[, or]~~ **and** any other documents, which
52 reveals or could reveal the location or address of the individual or individuals who qualify for
53 services under this section shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed by any entity.

492.304. 1. In addition to the admissibility of a statement under the provisions of
2 section 492.303, the visual and aural recording of a verbal or nonverbal statement of a child
3 when under the age of [~~fourteen who is alleged to be a victim of~~] **eighteen, or a vulnerable**
4 **person, relating to** an offense under the provisions of chapter 565, 566 ~~[or]~~, 568, **or 573, if**
5 **performed by another**, is admissible into evidence if:

6 (1) No attorney for either party was present when the statement was made; except
7 that, for any statement taken at a state-funded child assessment center as provided for in
8 subsection 2 of section 210.001, an attorney representing the state of Missouri in a criminal
9 investigation may, as a member of a multidisciplinary investigation team, observe the taking
10 of such statement, but such attorney shall not be present in the room where the interview is
11 being conducted;

12 (2) The recording is both visual and aural and is recorded on film or videotape or by
13 other electronic means;

14 (3) The recording equipment was capable of making an accurate recording, the
15 operator of the equipment was competent, and the recording is accurate and has not been
16 altered;

17 (4) The statement was not made in response to questioning calculated to lead the child
18 **or vulnerable person** to make a particular statement or to act in a particular way;

19 (5) Every voice on the recording is identified;

20 (6) The person conducting the interview of the child **or vulnerable person** in the
21 recording, **or a current employee of a child assessment center if a child was recorded**, is
22 present at the proceeding and available to testify or be cross-examined by either party; and

23 (7) The defendant or the attorney for the defendant is afforded an opportunity to view
24 the recording before it is offered into evidence.

25 2. If the child **or vulnerable person** does not testify at the proceeding, the visual and
26 aural recording of a verbal or nonverbal statement of the child **or vulnerable person** shall not
27 be admissible under this section unless the recording qualifies for admission under section
28 491.075.

29 3. If the visual and aural recording of a verbal or nonverbal statement of a child **or**
30 **vulnerable person** is admissible under this section and the child **or vulnerable person**

31 testifies at the proceeding, it shall be admissible in addition to the testimony of the child **or**
32 **vulnerable person** at the proceeding whether or not it repeats or duplicates the child's **or**
33 **vulnerable person's** testimony.

34 4. As used in this section, a nonverbal statement shall be defined as any
35 demonstration of the child **or vulnerable person** by his or her actions, facial expressions,
36 demonstrations with a doll or other visual aid whether or not this demonstration is
37 accompanied by words.

38 5. For the purposes of this section, "vulnerable person" shall mean a person
39 who, as a result of an inadequately developed or impaired intelligence or a psychiatric
40 disorder that materially affects the ability to function, lacks the mental capacity to
41 consent, or whose developmental level does not exceed that of an ordinary child of
42 seventeen years of age.

556.039. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 556.036, prosecutions:

2 (1) Under sections 566.203 to 566.211 involving a person nineteen years of age or
3 older; or

4 (2) Under section 566.203, 566.206, or 566.207 involving a person under nineteen
5 years of age

6

7 **shall be commenced no later than twenty years after the commission of the offense.**

566.151. 1. A person twenty-one years of age or older commits the offense of
2 enticement of a child if he or she persuades, solicits, coaxes, entices, or lures whether by
3 words, actions or through communication via the internet or any electronic communication,
4 any person who is less than ~~fifteen~~ **seventeen** years of age for the purpose of engaging in
5 sexual conduct.

6 2. It is not a defense to a prosecution for a violation of this section that the other
7 person was a peace officer masquerading as a minor.

8 3. Enticement of a child or an attempt to commit enticement of a child is a felony for
9 which the authorized term of imprisonment shall be not less than five years and not more than
10 thirty years. No person convicted under this section shall be eligible for parole, probation,
11 conditional release, or suspended imposition or execution of sentence for a period of five
12 calendar years.

566.207. 1. A person commits the offense of patronizing a victim of sexual
2 **servitude if the person knowingly gives, agrees to give, or offers to give anything of value**
3 **so that an individual may engage in a commercial sex act with another individual and**
4 **the person knows that the other individual is a victim of sexual servitude.**

5 2. **The offense of patronizing a victim of sexual servitude if the victim is eighteen**
6 **years of age or older is a felony punishable by imprisonment for a term of not less than**

7 **five years and not more than twenty years and a fine not to exceed two hundred fifty**
8 **thousand dollars.**

9 **3. The offense of patronizing a victim of sexual servitude if the victim is under**
10 **eighteen years of age is a felony for which the authorized term of imprisonment is life**
11 **imprisonment without eligibility for probation or parole until the offender has served**
12 **not less than twenty-five years of such sentence.**

13 **4. An individual shall be deemed a victim of sexual servitude for purposes of this**
14 **section only if the individual is a victim of the crime of trafficking for the purposes of**
15 **sexual exploitation under section 566.209.**

567.030. 1. A person commits the offense of patronizing prostitution if he or she:

2 (1) Pursuant to a prior understanding, gives something of value to another person as
3 compensation for having engaged in sexual conduct with any person; or

4 (2) Gives or agrees to give something of value to another person with the
5 understanding that such person or another person will engage in sexual conduct with any
6 person; or

7 (3) Solicits or requests another person to engage in sexual conduct with any person in
8 return for something of value.

9 2. It shall not be a defense that the person believed that the individual he or she
10 patronized for prostitution was eighteen years of age or older.

11 3. The offense of patronizing prostitution is a class [~~B-misdemeanor~~] **E felony**, unless
12 the individual who the person patronizes is less than eighteen years of age but older than
13 [~~fourteen~~] **fifteen** years of age, in which case patronizing prostitution is a class [~~E~~] **D** felony.

14 4. The offense of patronizing prostitution is a class [~~D~~] **B** felony if the individual who
15 the person patronizes is [~~fourteen~~] **fifteen** years of age or younger. Nothing in this section
16 shall preclude the prosecution of an individual for the offenses of:

17 (1) Statutory rape in the first degree pursuant to section 566.032;

18 (2) Statutory rape in the second degree pursuant to section 566.034;

19 (3) Statutory sodomy in the first degree pursuant to section 566.062; or

20 (4) Statutory sodomy in the second degree pursuant to section 566.064.

589.700. 1. In addition to any fine imposed for a violation of section 566.203,
2 **566.206, 566.209, 566.210, 566.211, or 566.215, the court shall enter a judgment of**
3 **restitution in the amount specified in this subsection in favor of the state of Missouri,**
4 **payable to the human trafficking and sexual exploitation fund established under this**
5 **section, upon a plea of guilty or a finding of guilt for a violation of section 566.203,**
6 **566.206, 566.209, 566.210, 566.211, or 566.215. The judgment of restitution shall be in**
7 **the amount of:**

8 **(1) Ten thousand dollars per each identified victim of the offense or offenses for**
9 **which restitution is required under this subsection; and**

10 **(2) Two thousand five hundred dollars for each county in which such offense or**
11 **offenses occurred.**

12 **2. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Human Trafficking and**
13 **Sexual Exploitation Fund", which shall consist of proceeds from the human trafficking**
14 **restitution collected for violations of sections 566.203, 566.206, 566.209, 566.210, 566.211,**
15 **and 566.215. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with**
16 **sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund**
17 **shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in this fund shall be**
18 **distributed to the county or counties where the human trafficking offense or offenses**
19 **occurred. Upon receipt of moneys from the fund, a county shall allocate the**
20 **disbursement as follows:**

21 **(1) Ten thousand dollars per each identified victim of the offense or offenses that**
22 **occurred in the county toward local rehabilitation services for victims of human**
23 **trafficking including, but not limited to, mental health and substance abuse counseling;**
24 **general education, including parenting skills; housing relief; vocational training; and**
25 **employment counseling; and**

26 **(2) Two thousand five hundred dollars toward local efforts to prevent human**
27 **trafficking including, but not limited to, education programs for persons convicted of**
28 **human trafficking offenses and increasing the number of local law enforcement**
29 **members charged with enforcing human trafficking laws.**

30 **3. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys**
31 **remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the**
32 **general revenue fund.**

33 **4. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as**
34 **other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be**
35 **credited to the fund.**

590.050. 1. **(1) The POST commission shall establish requirements for the**
2 **continuing education of all peace officers.**

3 **(2) Each peace officer shall be required to receive two hours of sex and human**
4 **trafficking training consistent with the guidelines established in section 27.170 within**
5 **the law enforcement continuing education one-year reporting period. The provisions of**
6 **this subdivision shall become effective on January 1, 2026, and shall expire on December**
7 **31, 2030.**

8 **(3) Peace officers who make traffic stops shall be required to receive [~~three hours~~]**
9 **one hour** of training within the law enforcement continuing education [~~three-year~~] **one-year**

10 reporting period concerning the prohibition against racial profiling and such training shall
11 promote understanding and respect for racial and cultural differences and the use of effective,
12 noncombative methods for carrying out law enforcement duties in a racially and culturally
13 diverse environment.

14 2. The director shall license continuing education providers and may probate, suspend
15 and revoke such licenses upon written notice stating the reasons for such action. Any person
16 aggrieved by a decision of the director pursuant to this subsection may appeal as provided in
17 chapter 536.

18 3. The costs of continuing law enforcement education shall be reimbursed in part by
19 moneys from the peace officer standards and training commission fund created in section
20 590.178, subject to availability of funds, except that no such funds shall be used for the
21 training of any person not actively commissioned or employed by a county or municipal law
22 enforcement agency.

23 4. The director may engage in any activity intended to further the professionalism of
24 peace officers through training and education, including the provision of specialized training
25 through the department of public safety.

610.131. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 610.140 to the contrary, a
2 person who ~~[at the time of the offense was under the age of eighteen, and]~~ has pleaded guilty
3 **to** or has been convicted ~~[for]~~ **of** the offense of prostitution under section 567.020 may apply
4 to the court in which he or she pled guilty or was sentenced for an order to expunge from all
5 official records all recordations of his or her arrest, plea, trial, or conviction. If the court
6 determines that such person ~~[was under the age of eighteen or]~~ was acting under the coercion,
7 as defined in section 566.200, of an agent when committing the offense that resulted in a plea
8 of guilty or conviction under section 567.020, the court shall enter an order of expungement.

9 2. Upon granting of the order of expungement, the records and files maintained in any
10 administrative or court proceeding in an associate or circuit division of the circuit court under
11 this section shall be confidential and only available to the parties or by order of the court for
12 good cause shown. The effect of such order shall be to restore such person to the status he or
13 she occupied prior to such arrest, plea, or conviction and as if such event had never taken
14 place. No person as to whom such order has been entered shall be held thereafter under any
15 provision of any law to be guilty of perjury or otherwise giving a false statement by reason of
16 his or her failure to recite or acknowledge such arrest, plea, trial, conviction, or expungement
17 in response to any inquiry made of him or her for any purpose whatsoever and no such
18 inquiry shall be made for information relating to an expungement under this section.

✓