

OUR WORK IN THE LEGISLATURE:

Human Trafficking



Faith Action Network's Successful Track Record with Human Trafficking Legislation

2014: FAN's first Human Trafficking bill passed with strong bipartisan support (SB 6339-Fraser)

Prevents human trafficking in our state by creating a felony if an employer is found to be in possession of an employee's immigration documents by threat or coercion of involuntary servitude. This bill began as an idea during FAN's Interfaith Leaders Council meeting with Governor Inslee.

2015: FAN's bill regarding definitions related to human trafficking passed the House unanimously and passed out of committee in the Senate but was not brought up for a vote on the Senate floor.

2016: Human Trafficking definition bill passed (SB 5342 – Hasegawa) expanding how our state legally understands human trafficking in terms of enforcement. Particularly, this bill included the words "forced labor" in the definition, which accounts for the largest portion of human trafficking.

2017: FAN signed on before the legislative session to two bills put forward by the WA State Attorney General's Office--both passed unanimously with bi-partisan support:

(HB 1079—Orwall) Establishes a no-contact/protection order for victims of Human Trafficking.

(SB 5030—Darneille) Extends the statute of limitations for human trafficking to ten years, or if the victim was under the age of 18 at the time of the crime, until their 30th birthday—whichever is later.

In 2017, FAN also had the opportunity to support other bills that were not originally on our legislative agenda that advances our policy goals. In 2017, we celebrated the passage of:

(SB 5272—Saldana) Vacates convictions arising from offenses committed as a result of being a victim of human trafficking.

