

Oral, Proponent - Senate Bill 71

Senate Judiciary Committee

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Chairwoman Warren, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing time for me to testify in support of SB 71.

Regarding commercial sexual exploitation:

- I support prohibiting buying sexual relations.
- I support criminal penalties for buying sexual relations.
- I support requiring **certain offenders** to register for and complete an Attorney General approved educational and/or treatment program.
- I also fully support offering diversions to **certain offenders**.

Regarding certain offenders, I believe college aged young adult "sex buyers" should absolutely be offered diversions after registering for and completing Ag required educational/treatment programs. Questionable decisions made in one's college years need not be shadows that loom forever.

I ask the committee to consider requiring a length of time before any offender is eligible for diversion. Would the committee consider 10 years before diversion eligibility? For instance:

All offenders must register for and complete an Ag approved educational/treatment program, within a certain time frame from judgement & sentencing, to be eligible for diversion in 7 to 10 years.

In 2018, Angelyn Bayless, Executive Director of the Arizona Anti-Trafficking Network, came to Topeka. She specializes in anti-demand work. While in town to do this training at the 2018 Attorney General conference, Angelyn made a spoof ad in Topeka. **Based on her company's algorithm, she estimated that there were nearly 3,000 sex buyers in Topeka.** Demand — the driving force in sex trafficking.

Further findings:

- 99% male
- 85% white
- The average age being in the mid-40's
- Median income around \$140-150,000
- 65% married
- 19% professions involved working with children (sports coach, military recruiter, boy scout leader)
- 22% involved a position of authority or trust (attorney, law enforcement, military or minister)

I urge the committee to establish "certain offenders" to mean ALL sex buyers are required to register for and complete Ag approved educational/treatment programs to be eligible for diversion in 7 to 10 years. This would reduce demand for commercial sexual exploitation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.