



North Dakota State Facts

Criminalization of DMST

1. North Dakota's human trafficking law includes sex trafficking and clearly defines a human trafficking victim to include a minor under the age of 18 used in commercial sex acts without requiring the use of force, fraud, or coercion in the commission.

Criminal Provisions Addressing Demand

2. North Dakota Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem was one of 51 Attorneys General who signed a letter to Backpage.com calling on the company to disclose its efforts to identify and delete advertisements that facilitate sex trafficking, specifically of minors.¹
3. Older minors are provided less justice against buyers and sellers of sex. Under the human trafficking law, offenders face a Class AA felony with a maximum penalty of life in prison. However, the crime of "corruption or solicitation of minors" is a Class A misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of one year in prison and/or a fine of \$2,000 when the minor is 15 or older.

Criminal Provisions for Facilitators

4. Despite North Dakota's close proximity to the Canadian border, there are no laws related to child sex tourism, leaving the state vulnerable to unscrupulous businesses selling travel that includes commercial sex with minors.

Protective Provisions for Child Victims

5. Testifying victims of sex trafficking are provided some protection against being required to testify about past or other sexual behavior through the "rape shield" law.

¹ <http://www.tn.gov/attorneygeneral/cases/backpage/backpageletter.pdf>