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California State Senate

SENATOR
KELLY SEYARTO
THIRTY-SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



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August 27, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Signing Request – Senate Bill 963

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing today to respectfully request that you sign Senate Bill 963.

This bill, if implemented, would require all general acute care hospitals with an emergency department to implement a self-identifying human trafficking system.

SB-963 would equip emergency rooms with the necessary tools to empower victims to safely self-identify without fear of repercussions. Around 87.8% of trafficking survivors reported accessing health care services during their trafficking situation, and 68.3% of these visits occurred in emergency departments. This proactive measure recognizes the crucial role of healthcare providers in identifying victims, given that many trafficking survivors interact with medical staff rather than law enforcement during their healthcare visits.

By adopting this bill, California can lead the way in ensuring that trafficking survivors are identified and connected to appropriate services.

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully request that you sign SB-963. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (916) 651-4032.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Seyarto".

Kelly Seyarto
Senator, 32nd District