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(Wyo.)-State Lawmakers Consider Anti-Trafficking Laws



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 01/17/2013 08:53 AM

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - Wyoming lawmakers are considering passing state laws barring human trafficking.

The state is the only one in the country without such laws.

The Wyoming Tribune Eagle reported that the proposal would make it a felony to knowingly recruit, harbor, receive or participate in other ways in forced labor or sexual servitude.

A House committee expressed interest in the bill from Democratic Rep. Cathy Connolly of Laramie on Tuesday but delayed a vote until Monday to clear up some questions about wording.

Connolly said trafficking cases are more common than many may believe, including in rural states.

In 2011, a man from Uzbekistan was sentenced to prison for managing a 14-state labor racketeering enterprise. A company associated with the ring supplied workers, mostly Filipino immigrants, to hotels in Casper and Douglas.