THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION ENTERPRISE PROHIBITION ACT

Chief Ordinance No. 1112021-1 of 2026

Tribal Nations — Mendocino Indian Reservation

Correction notice: This revision supersedes the prior draft. All references to the enacting official have been corrected. The enacting authority is **Lord Devin: Mallonee, Head Chief, Tribal Nations, Mendocino Indian Reservation.** No substantive change has been made to Sections 1–11 except conforming references to the enacting office.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, Tribal Nations, Mendocino Indian Reservation, is a self-governing nation whose sovereignty is affirmed by the 1856 Executive Order establishing the Mendocino Indian Reservation and by the inherent sovereignty of Indigenous peoples predating the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Head Chief possesses authority to enact ordinances of permanent governance and general application, and to exercise authority over economic development, commerce, and the health, safety, and welfare of persons within the jurisdiction of Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, sexual exploitation enterprises—organized entities and groups that engage in, facilitate, promote, or profit from a pattern of non-consensual, coercive, or abusive sexual conduct—constitute a direct threat to the bodily autonomy, dignity, and safety of persons, including Native women, children, and vulnerable adults; and

WHEREAS, such enterprises exploit systems of commerce, electronic communication, financial networks, and transport, and thereby affect interstate, foreign, and intrastate commerce in ways that reach into tribal territory and harm tribal communities; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Nations bears a sacred and sovereign duty to protect the Warrior, the Spiritual Warrior, the Familiars, and all persons within its jurisdiction from exploitation, in accordance with inherent cultural-spiritual rights;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Head Chief of Tribal Nations, Mendocino Indian Reservation, under the sovereign authority of the nation, as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE

This Act may be cited as the **"Sexual Exploitation Enterprise Prohibition Act"** or the **"SEEPA."**

SECTION 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

(a) Findings. The Tribal Government finds that:

(1) Sexual exploitation enterprises operate as ongoing organizations, whether formal or informal, with shared purpose and continuity of structure or personnel;

(2) Such enterprises engage in a pattern of activity involving the non-consensual, coercive, or abusive use of another person's sexuality, intimacy, or bodily autonomy for financial gain, economic benefit, or the acquisition of power, leverage, or commercial advantage;

(3) The conduct of such enterprises includes, but is not limited to, sex trafficking; non-consensual production, distribution, syndication, or commercialization of sexually explicit or intimate imagery (including extortion, blackmail, and deepfake dissemination); the operation or financing of establishments or digital platforms used for coercive sexual abuse or exploitation; and the systemic abuse of positions of authority, vulnerability, or differential power to compel sexual acts or services;

(4) These activities affect interstate, foreign, or intrastate commerce through electronic communication systems, financial networks, and physical transport systems; and

(5) The Tribal Government has both the inherent sovereign authority and the solemn responsibility to prohibit, prevent, and punish such enterprises within its jurisdiction.

(b) Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to:

(1) Define and prohibit sexual exploitation enterprises within the jurisdiction of Tribal Nations;

(2) Establish criminal and civil liability for entities and individuals who organize, facilitate, promote, or profit from a pattern of sexual exploitation;

(3) Provide for victim protection, restoration, and support;

(4) Authorize forfeiture of assets derived from sexual exploitation enterprises;

(5) Establish jurisdiction and cooperative enforcement mechanisms consistent with tribal, federal, and international law; and

(6) Protect the cultural-spiritual rights and bodily autonomy of all persons within the jurisdiction of Tribal Nations.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Act:

(a) "Sexual Exploitation Enterprise" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity, and any union or group of individuals associated in fact although not a legal entity, that engages in, facilitates, promotes, or profits from a pattern of sexual exploitation.

(b) "Pattern of Sexual Exploitation" means a pattern of activity involving the non-consensual, coercive, or abusive use of another person's sexuality, intimacy, or bodily autonomy for financial gain, economic benefit, or the acquisition of power, leverage, or commercial advantage. A pattern requires at least two acts of sexual exploitation, whether or not there has been a criminal conviction for such acts, and whether or not the acts occurred within tribal territory, provided that at least one act occurred within such territory or the effects were felt within such territory.

(c) "Included Conduct." A pattern of sexual exploitation includes, but is not limited to, the organized execution, coordination, or facilitation of any of the following:

(1) **Sex trafficking**, including the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act through force, fraud, or coercion;

(2) **Non-consensual imagery offenses**, including the non-consensual production, distribution, syndication, or commercialization of sexually explicit or intimate imagery, including online extortion, blackmail, or deepfake dissemination;

(3) **Abusive establishment or platform operation**, including the management, operation, or financing of an establishment or digital platform primarily utilized for the unauthorized or coercive sexual abuse or exploitation of adults or minors; or

(4) **Abuse of power**, including the systemic abuse of a position of authority, vulnerability, or differential power to compel sexual acts or services in exchange for essential goods, professional advancement, or basic safety.

(d) "Commerce Nexus" means that the activities of the enterprise affect, or have the intent to affect, interstate, foreign, or intrastate commerce, including the utilization of electronic communication systems, financial networks, or physical transport systems.

(e) "Person" means any human being, including a minor.

(f) "Minor" means any person under the age of eighteen (18) years.

(g) "Tribal Territory" means all lands within the Mendocino Indian Reservation as asserted by Tribal Nations, and any other territory over which the Tribal Government exercises jurisdiction.

(h) "Victim" means any person who has been subjected to conduct constituting a pattern of sexual exploitation under this Act.

SECTION 4. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

(a) Criminal Offense. It shall be unlawful for any person or entity to:

(1) Knowingly organize, operate, or maintain a sexual exploitation enterprise;

(2) Knowingly facilitate, promote, or profit from a sexual exploitation enterprise; or

(3) Conspire or attempt to engage in any conduct described in paragraphs (1) or (2).

(b) Aggravated Offense. The offense is aggravated, and subject to enhanced penalties under Section 8, where:

(1) The enterprise involves a minor;

(2) The enterprise involves force, fraud, coercion, or the threat of force;

(3) The enterprise involves the abuse of a position of authority or trust;

(4) The enterprise involves the use of digital platforms, financial networks, or transport systems to further the exploitation; or

(5) The enterprise has a nexus to tribal territory or tribal members.

(c) Corporate and Entity Liability. Any corporation, partnership, association, or other legal entity that knowingly engages in, facilitates, promotes, or profits from a sexual exploitation enterprise shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Section 8, including dissolution, debarment from tribal commerce, and forfeiture.

SECTION 5. JURISDICTION

(a) Territorial Jurisdiction. This Act applies to conduct that occurs:

(1) Within tribal territory;

(2) Outside tribal territory where the conduct is intended to produce, or does produce, a substantial effect within tribal territory or upon tribal members; or

(3) Outside tribal territory where the conduct involves a tribal member as a victim, perpetrator, or facilitator, consistent with applicable federal and tribal law.

(b) Subject-Matter Jurisdiction. Tribal Nations asserts jurisdiction over sexual exploitation enterprises to the fullest extent permitted by federal law, including the inherent sovereignty recognized in *Worcester v. Georgia* and the federal trust responsibility articulated in *United States v. Kagama*.

(c) Concurrent Jurisdiction. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the jurisdiction of federal, state, or international authorities. Tribal Nations may enter into cooperative agreements for joint investigation and prosecution.

SECTION 6. VICTIM PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

(a) Non-Discrimination and Safety. Victims shall not be criminalized, detained, or subjected to punitive measures for acts committed as a direct result of their exploitation.

(b) Victim Services. Tribal Nations shall establish or coordinate victim-centered, trauma-informed services, including:

(1) Emergency shelter and safety planning;

(2) Medical and mental health care;

(3) Culturally appropriate spiritual and community support;

(4) Legal advocacy and immigration relief assistance; and

(5) Restitution and civil remedies.

(c) Privacy. The identity of victims shall be protected in all proceedings, and victim imagery shall be handled with the highest safeguards to prevent further dissemination.

(d) Civil Action. A victim may bring a civil action against any person or entity that violates this Act for actual damages, statutory damages, punitive damages, injunctive relief, and attorneys' fees.

SECTION 7. FORFEITURE AND ASSET RECOVERY

(a) Forfeiture. Upon conviction or civil adjudication under this Act, Tribal Nations may seek forfeiture of:

(1) Any property, real or personal, used or intended to be used to commit or facilitate the offense;

(2) Any property constituting or derived from proceeds traceable to the offense; and

(3) Any interest in an enterprise used to commit the offense.

(b) Restitution Priority. Forfeited assets shall be prioritized for victim restitution and victim-service programs.

(c) Freezing Orders. The Tribal Court may issue ex parte orders to freeze assets suspected to be connected to a sexual exploitation enterprise pending investigation.

SECTION 8. PENALTIES

(a) Criminal Penalties.

(1) **Standard Offense:** Imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, or a fine of not more than $250,000, or both.

(2) **Aggravated Offense:** Imprisonment for not more than fifteen (15) years, or a fine of not more than $1,000,000, or both.

(3) **Entity Offense:** A fine of not more than $2,500,000, dissolution where authorized, and permanent debarment from tribal contracting and commerce.

(b) Civil Penalties. Up to $100,000 per violation, plus disgorgement of all profits.

(c) Sentencing Considerations. In determining sentence, the Tribal Court shall consider the severity of the exploitation, the number of victims, the duration of the enterprise, the use of coercion or violence, and the vulnerability of victims, including minors.

SECTION 9. ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTIGATION

(a) Enforcement Authority. Tribal Nations, through its designated law enforcement and regulatory agencies, shall have authority to investigate, cite, arrest, and refer for prosecution violations of this Act.

(b) Investigative Tools. Subject to the Bill of Rights of Tribal Nations and applicable law, investigators may:

(1) Issue subpoenas for records;

(2) Conduct undercover operations;

(3) Obtain warrants for search and seizure; and

(4) Cooperate with federal, state, and international law enforcement.

(c) Multi-Disciplinary Task Force. Tribal Nations shall establish a Sexual Exploitation Enterprise Task Force comprising law enforcement, victim advocates, legal counsel, financial investigators, and community representatives.

(d) Training. All enforcement personnel shall receive mandatory training on trauma-informed practices, victim identification, and cultural sensitivity.

SECTION 10. COOPERATION AND INFORMATION SHARING

(a) Intergovernmental Cooperation. Tribal Nations may enter into memoranda of understanding with federal, state, local, and international agencies for the investigation and prosecution of sexual exploitation enterprises.

(b) Platform and Financial Cooperation. Tribal Nations may request and share information with electronic communication service providers, financial institutions, and transport providers to the extent permitted by law and consistent with tribal sovereignty.

(c) Data Protection. All shared information shall be limited to the minimum necessary and subject to confidentiality and privacy safeguards.

SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY AND SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

(a) Severability. If any provision of this Act is held invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

(b) Sovereign Immunity. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as a waiver of the sovereign immunity of Tribal Nations or the Mendocino Indian Reservation, except as expressly provided herein or by separate tribal law.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Act shall take effect upon signature by the Head Chief and publication in the official records of Tribal Nations.

ENACTED this ___ day of _____, 2025.

Lord Devin: Mallonee
Head Chief, Tribal Nations
Mendocino Indian Reservation

ATTESTED:

[Secretary / Recorder]

Source note: The operative definition in Section 3 is adapted from the supplied document "Sexual Exploitation Enterprise Defined," incorporating its elements, included conduct, and commerce-nexus requirement. The jurisdictional and enactment framework is drafted to align with the sovereign authority of Tribal Nations, Mendocino Indian Reservation, and the institutional materials published at agencytribalnations.org.

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