



## **SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF COYOTE RI**

My name is [Bella Robinson](#). I have been a sex worker for 35 years. I founded COYOTE RI in 2010. Since then I have served as the executive director. COYOTE RI is an organization of sex workers, former sex workers and sex trafficking victims, who advocate for policies that promote the health and safety of sex workers. We conduct participatory research, run focus groups and engage in policy work. We also provide direct services to sex workers and trafficking victims, and we support incarcerated sex workers.

I am writing to you today in opposition of SB2557, which is known globally as the Nordic model. The Nordic model has increased violence and exploitation everywhere it has been implemented. The Nordic model causes sex workers to be evicted, and they are still put under mass surveillance. They are also likely to have their children taken away without any proof that they are bad parents just because they engaged in sex work. The Nordic model often results good & safe clients disappearing and sex workers are left with shadier clients who refuse to provide their screening information and are more likely to be violent.

A recent report by Amnesty International. "IRELAND: LAWS CRIMINALIZING SEX WORK ARE FACILITATING THE TARGETING AND ABUSE OF SEX WORKERS" [\[link\]](#)

22 Years of End Demand: The Evidence is in. [\[link\]](#)

Three Ways the Nordic Model Falls Short [\[link\]](#)

Two years before and two years after §§ 25-27 of Criminal Law (Sexual Offenses) Act 2017 compared, @uglymugsie research and reporting suggest, a 90% crime increase and 92% violent crime reported by sex workers on Ireland. [\[link\]](#)

We have archived mountains of evidence proving that the nordic model harms sex workers and trafficking victims [\[link\]](#)

SB2557 is also unconstitutional on its face, as you can't make something legal for women and illegal for men.

For the reasons stated above, we ask you to VOTE NO, on SB2557

Sincerely,

**Bella Robinson (COYOTE RI) 401-525-8757 < [Bella@coyoteri.org](mailto:Bella@coyoteri.org) >**

