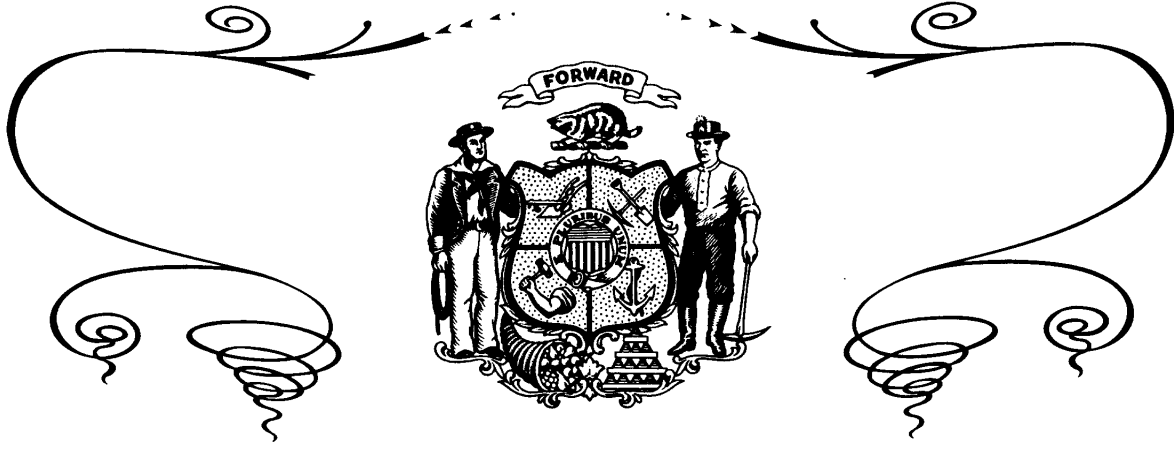


# State of Wisconsin



2017 Assembly Joint Resolution 95

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## ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

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**Relating to:** proclaiming January 2018 as human trafficking awareness and prevention month.

Whereas, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, human trafficking is a public health issue that impacts individuals, families, and communities; and

Whereas, human trafficking occurs when a person is recruited, harbored, obtained, or transported through force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of sexual exploitation, commercial sex acts, or labor exploitation; and

Whereas, human traffickers disproportionately target at-risk populations, including individuals who have experienced or been exposed to other violence, such as child abuse and maltreatment and community violence, and those who are disconnected from stable support networks, such as runaway and homeless youth, unaccompanied minors, and persons displaced by natural disasters; and

Whereas, the U.S. State Department estimates that of the 600,000 to 800,000 people who are trafficked across international borders each year, 80 percent of all trafficking victims are female and 50 percent of victims are children; and

Whereas, the average age a teen enters the sex trade in the U.S. is 12 to 14 years old; and

Whereas, human trafficking has been reported in counties across the State of Wisconsin, and it is a crime found in rural, urban, and suburban communities; and

Whereas, human trafficking is modern-day slavery, a practice that is in direct opposition to the fundamental principles of liberty and human rights upon which our nation was founded; and

Whereas, the State of Wisconsin is committed to eliminating human trafficking, forming the Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force as a partnership between the Wisconsin Department of Justice and the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families to provide a cross-system, comprehensive, trauma-informed service and response system in Wisconsin for minors who are victims or at risk of being victims of sex trafficking; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force has recently met its goal of developing a coordinated and comprehensive plan to address the sex trafficking of minors in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, to combat human trafficking in our state, our citizens must be aware of the realities of human trafficking, educated to recognize victims of human trafficking, and dedicated to stopping it; and

Whereas, a resolution passed by the United States Senate on June 22, 2007, has forever marked January 11th as a day of awareness and vigilance for the countless victims of human trafficking around the world; and

Whereas, eliminating human trafficking is a goal shared by all Americans who believe in freedom and liberty for all people; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That:** the members of the Wisconsin Legislature proclaim January 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month in the State of Wisconsin.

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Senator Roger Roth  
President of the Senate

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Representative Robin J. Vos  
Speaker of the Assembly

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Date

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Patrick E. Fuller  
Assembly Chief Clerk