



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5129/1
JK:klm

2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 95

January 12, 2018 - Introduced by Representatives BILLINGS, KLEEFISCH, MILROY, ALLEN, MEYERS, SNYDER, WACHS, KOLSTE, SINICKI, PETRYK, ZEPNICK, SARGENT, SHANKLAND, TITTL, KITCHENS, VRUWINK, JACQUE, ANDERSON, OHNSTAD, ROHRKASTE, SPREITZER, E. BROOKS, POPE, BERCEAU, KULP, C. TAYLOR, SPIROS, BERNIER, SUBECK, CROWLEY, GENRICH, BALLWEG, CONSIDINE and HEBL, cosponsored by Senators JOHNSON, DARLING, FEYEN, L. TAYLOR, CARPENTER, WIRCH, COWLES, WANGGAARD, VINEHOUT, RINGHAND, MOULTON, RISSER, PETROWSKI, LARSON and ERPENBACH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

