



## 2017 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 91

January 17, 2018 - Introduced by Senators JOHNSON, DARLING, FEYEN, L. TAYLOR, CARPENTER, WIRCH, COWLES, WANGGAARD, VINEHOUT, RINGHAND, MOULTON, RISSER, PETROWSKI, LARSON and ERPENBACH, cosponsored 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. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

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

