

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.213

Reps. Whiteford, Aiyash, Bezotte, Bollin, Brabec, Calley, Cavanagh, Ellison, Haadsma, Hood, Hope, Kahle, Lightner, Rogers, Sabo, Sneller, Tate, Thanedar, Weiss, Yaroch and Young offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare January 2022 as Human Trafficking
2 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Human trafficking is a crime under international,
4 federal, and state law, and one of the fastest-growing crimes in
5 the world, second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable
6 form of crime, according to the U.S. Department of State; and

7 Whereas, Human trafficking is defined as the recruitment,
8 harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of persons for
9 labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for

1 the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt
2 bondage, or slavery, and the inducement of a commercial sex act by
3 force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to
4 perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; and

5 Whereas, Human trafficking is not exclusive to just one
6 gender. All victims of human trafficking deserve equal respect and
7 the opportunity to report that trauma without judgement; and

8 Whereas, To combat this form of modern-day slavery, the people
9 of the United States, the federal government, and state and local
10 governments must work to better understand the complex nature of
11 this problem; and

12 Whereas, According to Rights4Girls, a human rights
13 organization working to end gender-based violence in the U.S.,
14 African-American girls are disproportionately affected; Latino and
15 Asian-American girls also experience unacceptable and
16 disproportionate levels of trafficking; and

17 Whereas, We applaud the special unit designated to combat
18 human trafficking in our state's Attorney General's office and more
19 must be done statewide to combat this growing trend. State and
20 local law enforcement agencies must demonstrate a proactive
21 approach to increasing awareness and prevention protocols and
22 establishing community outreach efforts with civic, ecumenical, and
23 community groups to keep our citizens safe; now, therefore, be it

24 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
25 this legislative body declare January 2022 as Human Trafficking
26 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan. We support and commend
27 all work by individuals, businesses, organizations, and governing
28 bodies for their important contributions to this commitment to end
29 human trafficking; and be it further

1 Resolved, That the members of this legislative body encourage
2 all Michiganders to use this month as an opportunity to educate
3 themselves about human trafficking and be aware of how prevalent it
4 is in our state; and be it further

5 Resolved, That we stand in full support of those victims of
6 human trafficking who have yet to escape or be found and liberated;
7 and be it further

8 Resolved, That we offer the gravest concern for those who have
9 had loved ones become victims to human trafficking; and be it
10 further

11 Resolved, That we commend those individuals who have been
12 victims of trafficking and have survived to overcome the atrocity;
13 and be it further

14 Resolved, That we support and commend all work by individuals,
15 businesses, organizations, and governing bodies for their important
16 contributions themselves to putting an end to human trafficking.