

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 11, 2018, as "National Human Trafficking  
2 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has a tradition of advancing  
4 fundamental human rights; and

5 WHEREAS, Human trafficking, including early or forced  
6 marriage, commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor, peonage,  
7 involuntary servitude and slavery, must be eliminated; and

8 WHEREAS, To combat human trafficking in this Commonwealth and  
9 globally, Pennsylvania residents in conjunction with State and  
10 local governments must be aware of the realities of human  
11 trafficking and be dedicated to stopping this contemporary  
12 manifestation of slavery; and

13 WHEREAS, Efforts must be made to actively oppose all  
14 individuals, groups, organizations and nations who support,  
15 advance or commit acts of human trafficking; and

16 WHEREAS, Victims of human trafficking need support to escape  
17 and recover from the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual

1 trauma associated with their victimization; and

2 WHEREAS, Human traffickers use physical and psychological  
3 techniques to control their victims, including violence, threats  
4 of violence against the victim or the victim's family, isolation  
5 from the public, isolation from the victim's family and  
6 religious or ethnic communities, language and cultural barriers,  
7 shame, control of the victim's possessions, confiscation of  
8 passports and other identification documents and threats of  
9 arrest, deportation or imprisonment if the victim attempts to  
10 reach out for assistance or leave; and

11 WHEREAS, Although laws have been enacted in the United States  
12 to prosecute human traffickers and to aid victims of human  
13 trafficking, awareness of the issues surrounding human  
14 trafficking by those people most likely to come into contact  
15 with victims is essential for effective enforcement because the  
16 techniques that traffickers use to keep their victims enslaved  
17 severely limit self-reporting; and

18 WHEREAS, The effort by individuals, businesses, organizations  
19 and governing bodies to promote the observance of "National  
20 Human Trafficking Awareness Day" on January 11 of each year  
21 represents one of the many examples of the ongoing commitment to  
22 raise awareness and actively oppose human trafficking; therefore  
23 be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize January  
25 11, 2018, as "National Human Trafficking Awareness Day" in  
26 Pennsylvania; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the goals  
28 and ideals of "National Human Trafficking Awareness Day" and all  
29 other efforts to raise awareness of human trafficking and  
30 opposition to human trafficking.