

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 88

Introduced by Senator Runner

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Travis Allen, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonta, Brough, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Campos, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Roger Hernández, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Patterson, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Santiago, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wilk, Williams, and Wood)

August 25, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 88—Relative to Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 88, as amended, Runner. Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of January 2016 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, encourage all Californians to become educated about human trafficking and work to eradicate these criminal practices within and beyond our borders, and encourage Members of the Legislature, as well as organizations, businesses, and individuals, to host or sponsor and attend community events in order to bring visibility and support to efforts made by nongovernmental organizations to recognize and combat human trafficking.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery.
2 It is a crime that involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to
3 recruit, harbor, transport, provide, or obtain a person for the
4 purposes of labor or sexual exploitation; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 800,000 young children, teenagers,
6 men, and women are trafficked across international borders
7 worldwide, and between 14,500 and 17,500 of those victims are
8 trafficked into the United States each year according to the United
9 States Department of State; and

10 WHEREAS, The public perception is that human trafficking
11 victims are from other countries, but data from the Attorney
12 General's 2012 report on human trafficking in California indicates
13 that 72 percent of identified victims in the United States are
14 American; and

15 WHEREAS, The California Legislature recognizes the
16 significant moral and economic harm of forced labor and human
17 trafficking to both the State of California and citizens across the
18 globe, and that ignoring this problem is detrimental not only to
19 those enslaved but to society as a whole; and

20 WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes that California's
21 extensive international border, its major harbors and airports, its
22 powerful economy and accelerating population, its large immigrant
23 population, and its industries, makes it a prime target for traffickers,
24 and that combating slavery within California will serve to improve
25 conditions both domestically and internationally; and

26 WHEREAS, From mid-2010 to mid-2012, California's nine
27 regional human trafficking task forces identified 1,277 victims,
28 initiated 2,552 investigations, arrested 1,798 individuals, and
29 provided training to 25,591 law enforcement personnel,
30 prosecutors, victim service providers, and other first responders;
31 and

32 WHEREAS, Nonprofit organizations, whose missions are to
33 assist trafficked individuals, provide resources allowing these
34 victims an opportunity to restore their lives through physical,
35 mental, emotional, and spiritual restoration; and

36 WHEREAS, Americans are committed to individual freedom
37 and will take the necessary steps to nonviolently stop modern day
38 slavery around the world and help its victims through the continued
39 work of community organizations and human trafficking task
40 forces; and

1 WHEREAS, Opposition to human trafficking by the American
2 people will be directed against all individuals, groups,
3 organizations, and nations that support, advance, or commit acts
4 of modern day slavery; now, therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
6 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims January 2016
7 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in California in order to
8 encourage greater awareness of human trafficking within the State
9 of California, the United States of America, and internationally;
10 and be it further

11 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages all Californians to
12 become educated about human trafficking and work to eradicate
13 these criminal practices within and beyond our borders; and be it
14 further

15 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages its members, as well
16 as organizations, businesses, and individuals, to host or sponsor
17 and attend community events in order to bring visibility and support
18 to efforts made by nongovernmental organizations to recognize
19 and combat human trafficking; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
21 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.
22

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24 CORRECTIONS:

25 Text—Pages 1, 2, and 3.
26