



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: January 7, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Proclaiming January 2025 to be Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Sonoma County

Whereas, Sonoma County has a tradition of advancing fundamental human rights; and

Whereas, given the people of Sonoma County's commitment to protecting individual freedom, eliminating human trafficking, including early or forced marriage, commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor, labor obtained through debt bondage, involuntary servitude, slavery, slavery by descent, and involuntary imprisonment is imperative, and

Whereas, to combat human trafficking within Sonoma County, the United States and throughout the world, people and governments must be aware of human trafficking and must confront this contemporary manifestation of slavery; and

Whereas, the Board of Supervisors and the people of Sonoma County actively oppose all individuals, groups, organizations and governments and their entities who support, advance, or commit acts of human trafficking; and

Whereas, victims of human trafficking need support in order to escape and recover from the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual trauma associated with their victimization; and

Whereas, although laws to prosecute perpetrators of human trafficking and to assist and protect victims of human trafficking have been enacted, awareness of the issues surrounding human trafficking by those most likely to come in contact with victims is essential to effective enforcement because the techniques that traffickers use for enslaving their victims severely limit self-reporting; and

Whereas, individuals, public agencies, private organizations and businesses in Sonoma County should join together and work to end human trafficking through education.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors, in joining in this national observance is one example of the ongoing commitment to raise awareness of and actively oppose human trafficking, hereby proclaims January 2025, as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Sonoma County.

Supervisors:

Gorin: Coursey: Gore: Hopkins: Rabbitt:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.