

RESOLUTION NO. 2321

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING AND SUPPORTING JANUARY OF EACH YEAR AS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH.

THE TROUTDALE CITY COUNCIL FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Human trafficking is a borderless crime against individuals that violates the most basic human rights and deprives victims of every shred of personal freedom; and
2. Human trafficking occurs when a person is recruited, harbored, obtained, or exported through force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of sexual or labor exploitation, involuntary servitude, and other types of mental and physical abuse; and
3. Human traffickers target impoverished and marginalized children, women and men, isolating them from society and supportive networks and exploiting them for personal and monetary gain; and
4. Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the world today, and is tied with arms smuggling as the second largest international criminal industry, falling only behind the illicit drug trade; and
5. According to statistics for the Portland Metro area from 2009 - 2013, 96.4% of the reported 469 victims of human trafficking were female, and the average age was 15.5 years old, for those victims that were referred to the Department of Human Services and the Sexual Assault Resource Center of Portland; and
6. Many victims trafficked into the U.S. do not speak or understand English and are unable to communicate to seek rescue. Victims include U.S. citizens and documented immigrants. This crime is not always visible to the general public; it may be taking place in a business, a house or apartment building on our streets; and
7. We recognize that Oregon is a prime location for Human Trafficking because it is a major international transportation corridor and a culturally diverse state; and
8. Although the federal government and State of Oregon have enacted laws to prosecute human traffickers and protect the victims of human trafficking, traffickers use techniques to keep their victims enslaved that severely limit self-reporting and that require broad public awareness of human trafficking issues for enforcement and prevention to occur; and
9. The City of Troutdale stands committed to protecting human rights and individual freedom by eliminating human trafficking; and
10. The City of Troutdale is resolved to support the goals and ideals of observing a National Month of Human Trafficking Awareness in January of each year and to

support all efforts by individuals, businesses, organizations, and governing bodies to raise awareness of and opposition to Human Trafficking; and

11. The City commends the work of Multnomah County's Department of Human Services CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children) Unit, and the Sexual Assault Resource Center of Portland, and statewide efforts to end human trafficking through education, advocacy, and assistance to survivors. Our goal is to increase coordination and visibility of Troutdale's commitment to work with other agencies to end human trafficking.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TROUTDALE

Section 1. The Troutdale City Council does hereby proclaim January of each year as: Human Trafficking Awareness Month to raise awareness about the signs and consequences of human trafficking, to promote reporting mechanisms and opposition to human trafficking in all of its forms, and to encourage support for the survivors of human trafficking, to put an end to this criminal activity and restore freedom and dignity to its survivors.

Section 2. It is so resolved.

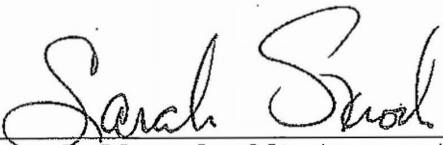
**YEAS: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAINED: 0**



Doug Dabust, Mayor

Date

2/01/16



Sarah Skroch, City Recorder

Adopted: January 26, 2016