

Senators Anderson, Hopgood, Proos, Walker, Pappageorge, Hansen, Jones, Whitmer, Johnson, Schuitmaker and Hune offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 9.

A resolution designating January 2013 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Human trafficking is the fastest-growing crime in the world, second only to drug trafficking, according to the U.S. Department of State; and

Whereas, The best estimates indicate that approximately .4 percent of all sex-trafficking victims have been identified; and

Whereas, Nine out of ten victims of sex trafficking in the United States are American middle school children, according to Shared Hope International; and

Whereas, In the state of Michigan, convicted sex-trafficking offenders are not required to register as sex offenders; and

Whereas, According to the Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Michigan is the 13th-highest state for the number of sex-trafficking victims; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we join together in recognizing January 2013 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Michigan; and be it further

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

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

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

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

Resolved, That we support all those who have dedicated themselves to putting an end to human trafficking within Michigan.