

2016 JAN -5 PM 5:00

Approved as to Form and Legality

DRAFT

City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR ANNIE CAMPBELL WASHINGTON AND
COUNCIL PRESIDENT LYNETTE GIBSON MCELHANEY

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JANUARY OF EVERY YEAR AS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND AND URGING ALL OAKLAND RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN THE ELIMINATION OF COMMERCIAL SEX AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Trafficking in Persons defines human trafficking as a form of modern day slavery, a crime that involves "the exploitation of someone for the purpose of compelled labor or a commercial sex act through the use of force, fraud, or coercion"; and

WHEREAS, victims of human trafficking, which include women and men, adults and children, and citizens and noncitizens, are forced to work in prostitution, but trafficking also occurs in amongst domestic servants, restaurant staff, hotel employees, factory workers and agricultural laborers; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services estimates that nearly 20-30 million people are enslaved throughout the world and that human trafficking is a multi-billion dollar-per-year industry; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of State estimates that 14,500 to 17,500 victims are trafficked into the United States each year; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland is home to many victims of trafficking, including many young girls and boys who are victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children; and

WHEREAS, The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 made trafficking in persons a federal crime, enacted to prevent severe forms of trafficking in persons, both in the United States and overseas, to protect victims and help them rebuild their lives in the United State and to prosecute traffickers in human beings and impose federal penalties; and

WHEREAS, in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the Obama Administration asked federal agencies to develop a plan to strengthen services for victims of human trafficking. The Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in the United States (2013-2017) builds on the progress that our Nation has made in combating human trafficking and modern day forms of slavery through government action, as well as partnerships with allied professionals and concerned citizens; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama proclaimed January 2013 as the first National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, the California Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown took action to prevent human trafficking by approving Senate Bill 1193 in 2012 which requires businesses and establishments where victims or witnesses of human trafficking may frequent, such as liquor stores, truck stops, or massage parlors, to post signage with helpful information to report or seek refuge from human trafficking through the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888 or through the California Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) at 1-888-KEY-2-FRE(EDOM) or 1-888-539-2373; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office leads California in the prosecution of human traffickers in both commercial sex trafficking and labor trafficking. Since 2006, more than 530 traffickers have been prosecuted with a conviction rate of 82%. Since 2011, through SafetyNet, more than 625 CSEC have been linked to vital services in the community; and

WHEREAS, H.E.A.T. Watch, under the leadership of the Office of Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, is a regional anti-human trafficking organization that is working towards ending trafficking exploitation in the Bay Area through a five-point strategy system which includes raising community awareness, training law enforcement, aggressively prosecuting offenders, coordinating existing services and promoting sustainable policy changes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland is committed to ending human trafficking, one of the greatest human rights abuses of our time, by allocating resources and developing partnerships with local, state and federal agencies and organizations and service providers that work with this vulnerable population; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the impact of human trafficking on the City of Oakland, the Oakland City Council adopted Resolution 85948 in January of 2016 proclaiming January of every year as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month in the City of Oakland and urging all Oakland residents, businesses and organizations to actively engage in the elimination of commercial sex and human trafficking in the city; now therefore be it resolved

RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland hereby recognizes the month of January as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month and commits to ending commercial sex and human trafficking in the city by supporting the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Task Force and continuing to collaborate in regional efforts to eliminate this silent epidemic; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland urges residents, businesses, and organizations to engage in the elimination of commercial sex and human trafficking in our city and recognize the vital role we can play in ending all forms of slavery and to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID AND PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS

City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City
of Oakland, California