

RESOLUTION NO. 190019

Declaring January 2019 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the enslavement of another human being for the purpose of profit through sex and labor trafficking—including domestic servitude; human trafficking is a hidden crime; and

WHEREAS, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) reports 1,523 total calls for trafficking in Missouri since 2007 and 304 total trafficking cases since 2007, and it is estimated that 1 in 5 endangered runaways were reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in 2015 was a trafficking victim; and

WHEREAS, in September, 2017, the Missouri Attorney General joined with the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry to form the Business Council Against Human Trafficking, a new coalition of Missouri businesses to increase training about human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, everyone can help prevent human trafficking by being aware of your surroundings, and if a person sees something that they think isn't right, if they see people not being able to speak for themselves, that there is somebody always around controlling them, the observer can call the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department; and

WHEREAS, through educating individuals, residential neighbors, business neighbors, businesses, employees, and law enforcement, our community can create change, through awareness, our community can find hope, and by taking a stand and working together, our community can find an end to the atrocity of human enslavement; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Prevention Month provides an important opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing human trafficking and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical investigation, reporting, advocacy, services and assistance to victims; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council hereby declare January 2019 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that a copy hereof be presented to Russ Tuttle with the Stop Trafficking Project, with the Mayor and Council urging all citizens to work together to eliminate human trafficking from our community.

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