

Date of Hearing: February 23, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES
Blanca Pacheco, Chair
SCR 112 (Grove) – As Introduced January 16, 2026

SENATE VOTE: 38-0

SUBJECT: National Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

SUMMARY: Recognizes the month of January 2026 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) For more than two centuries, the United States has worked to advance the cause of freedom, serving as a beacon of hope for those who cherish liberty and opportunity and leading the fight for the dignity and inalienable rights of every person.
- 2) Classified as a felony, human trafficking is a form of modern slavery. It is a crime that involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to recruit, harbor, transport, provide, or obtain a person for the purpose of labor or sexual exploitation. As one of the most underreported crimes, it is extremely difficult to conduct accurate surveys on human trafficking.
- 3) In 2015, the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking was established by Congress. The council sits as the world's preeminent human trafficking advisory body led by survivors of human trafficking and advises federal policymakers on antitrafficking policies.
- 4) According to a United States Department of State report, racial and ethnic minority groups, the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, and indigenous populations are extremely vulnerable to exploitation due to social, legal, and cultural marginalization. Studies show that Native American women and girls are victims of human trafficking at a much higher rate compared to the overall population.
- 5) According to a 2024 report from the United States Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General, approximately 300,000 unaccompanied migrant children are unaccounted for when transferred from the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Unaccompanied children who do not appear for court are considered at higher risk for trafficking, exploitation, or forced labor.
- 6) In 2024, the National Human Trafficking Hotline stated that there were 1,733 cases of human trafficking documented in California. And, in 2024 alone, federal courts found these cases involved 3,603 victims.
- 7) The State of California is committed to combating all forms of human trafficking, recovering victims, prosecuting offenders, advocating on behalf of victims, raising community awareness, and strengthening collaborative partnerships.
- 8) National Human Trafficking Prevention Month culminates in the annual observation of National Freedom Day on February 1.

FISCAL EFFECT: This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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