

# State Of Florida

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the United States was founded on the principle that all people are born with an unalienable right to freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, liberty and human rights are fundamental principles of our country; and

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is modern day slavery exercised through forced labor, debt bondage, servitude, and commercial sexual exploitation; and

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is an estimated \$32 billion dollar a year industry, second to drug smuggling, with over 20 million victims around the world of which, two million victims could be in the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, the victims of human trafficking are citizens and immigrants, men, women and children; and

**WHEREAS**, because these traffickers see Florida as a transit, destination and recruiting point, the State of Florida and local governments encourage the efforts of local agencies and organizations who protect against violations of human rights, especially victims of human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Florida must also work together to end human trafficking through education, prevention and prosecution while providing victims of human trafficking the support they need in order to escape and recover from their victimization; and

**WHEREAS**, we must join together as a nation and global community to provide a safe haven by protecting the victims and prosecuting the traffickers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking allows state leaders to come together to help victims and survivors of human trafficking by establishing an appropriate and caring environment for recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking also allows for continued state, local, national and international cooperation to eradicate human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, awareness of the issues surrounding human trafficking by those people most likely to come into contact with victims is essential to recognize, report and intervene.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida do hereby recognize January 2016, as

### **National Human Trafficking Awareness Month**

in Florida and commend law enforcement, local governments and communities, and citizens for their support and efforts in combating this modern day slave trade and for remaining vigilant and cognizant of the issue in order to protect citizens and visitors of our great State.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF** the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida have hereunto subscribed their names and have caused the Official Seal of the State of Florida to be hereunto affixed in the City of Tallahassee this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2016.



A blue ink signature of Rick Scott.

RICK SCOTT  
GOVERNOR

A blue ink signature of Pam Bondi.

PAM BONDI  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

A blue ink signature of Jeff Atwater.

JEFF ATWATER  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

A blue ink signature of Adam H. Putnam.

ADAM H. PUTNAM  
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE