



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 24836, **Version:** 1

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### **Fiscal Note**

No appropriation is required.

### **Title**

Recognizing January 2012 as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month.

### **Body**

WHEREAS, adult human trafficking occurs when a person is recruited, harbored, obtained or transported through force, fraud or coercion for the purposes of sexual exploitation, commercial sex acts or labor exploitation; and

WHEREAS, child sex trafficking occurs when a person under the age of 18 is recruited, harbored, obtained or transported through force, fraud or coercion for the purposes of sexual exploitation or commercial sex acts with or without force, fraud or coercion; and

WHEREAS, eighty percent of human trafficking victims are female and fifty percent of all trafficking victims are children; and

WHEREAS, each year 600,000 to 800,000 human beings are trafficked across international borders; and

WHEREAS, each year 14,500 to 17,500 United States residents are forced into human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance 2008 report "Hidden in Plain Sight" documents reports of human trafficking in Dane County; and

WHEREAS, women report in 2011 being sex trafficked as minors in Dane County but their victim status was commonly under-recognized and, to date, little data is collected and few appropriate and effective services are available for juvenile trafficking victims; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is modern day slavery, a practice that is in direct opposition to the fundamental principles of liberty and human rights upon which our nation was founded; and

WHEREAS, the City of Madison stands committed to protecting human rights and individual freedom by eliminating all forms of human trafficking including early or forced marriage, commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor, labor obtained through debt bondage, involuntary servitude, slavery and slavery by descent; and

WHEREAS, to combat human trafficking locally and around the country and globe, people everywhere must be aware of the realities of human trafficking and must be dedicated to stopping it; and

WHEREAS, fighting slavery has the most impact when entire communities work together on the problem; and

WHEREAS, a resolution passed by the United States Senate on June 22, 2007, has forever marked January 11th as a day of awareness and vigilance for the countless victims of human trafficking across the globe; and

WHEREAS, the City of Madison believes that more than one day a year should be dedicated to preventing and raising awareness of human trafficking;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Common Council recognize the month of January 2012 as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month in the City of Madison.