

As Introduced

**128th General Assembly
Regular Session
2009-2010**

S. R. No. 133

Senator Fedor

RESOLUTION

Recognizing January 11 as "National Human Trafficking
Awareness Day" in Ohio. 1
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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 128th General
Assembly of Ohio are pleased to recognize National Human
Trafficking Awareness Day, January 11; and 3
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WHEREAS, Ohio has a tradition of advancing fundamental human
rights; and 6
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WHEREAS, Because the people of Ohio remain committed to
protecting individual freedom, there is a statewide imperative to
eliminate 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 8
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WHEREAS, To combat human trafficking in Ohio and globally,
the people of Ohio, the General Assembly, and local governments
must be aware of the realities of human trafficking and must be
dedicated to stopping this contemporary manifestation of slavery;
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WHEREAS, Beyond all differences of race, creed, or political
persuasion, the people of Ohio face national threats together and
refuse to let human trafficking exist in Ohio and around the 19
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world; and 22

WHEREAS, Ohio should actively oppose all individuals, groups, 23
organizations, and nations who support, advance, or commit acts of 24
human trafficking; and 25

WHEREAS, Ohio must also work to end human trafficking around 26
the world through education; and 27

WHEREAS, Victims of human trafficking need support in order 28
to escape and to recover from the physical, mental, emotional, and 29
spiritual trauma associated with their victimization; and 30

WHEREAS, Human traffickers use many physical and 31
psychological techniques to control their victims, including the 32
use of violence or threats of violence against the victim or the 33
victim's family, isolation from the public, isolation from the 34
victim's family and religious or ethnic communities, language and 35
cultural barriers, shame, control of the victim's possessions, 36
confiscation of passports and other identification documents, and 37
threats of arrest, deportation, or imprisonment if the victim 38
attempts to reach out for assistance or to leave; and 39

WHEREAS, Although laws to prosecute perpetrators of human 40
trafficking and to assist and protect victims of human trafficking 41
have been enacted in the United States, awareness of the issues 42
surrounding human trafficking by those people most likely to come 43
into contact with victims is essential for effective enforcement 44
because the techniques that traffickers use to keep their victims 45
enslaved severely limit self-reporting; and 46

WHEREAS, The effort by individuals, businesses, 47
organizations, and governing bodies to promote the observance of 48
the National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness on January 11 of 49
each year represents one of the many examples of the ongoing 50
commitment in Ohio to raise awareness of and to actively oppose 51
human trafficking; now therefore be it 52

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 128th 53
General Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this 54
resolution, support the goals and ideals of observing the National 55
Day of Human Trafficking Awareness on January 11 of each year and 56
all other efforts to raise awareness of and opposition to human 57
trafficking; and be it further 58

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 59
authenticated copies of this resolution to the Governor, the 60
Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the 61
Senate, and the news media of Ohio. 62