Resolution No. 2019 -

## RESOLUTION OF THE SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2019 AS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH IN SOLANO COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that more than 25 million men, women, and children around the world are victims of human trafficking; with an estimated 300,000 children sex trafficked in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Human Trafficking Awareness month was established in January 2010 to bring to light the issue of modern day slavery and proclaim the inherent freedom that should be afforded to all people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Child Welfare Services Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Steering Committee consists of a collaboration of invested individuals from social services, mental health services, public health services, law enforcement, the District Attorney's office, faith-based groups, community-based organizations, community members and survivors who address the issue of exploitation; and

**WHEREAS**, youth of color, LGBTQ youth, and those made most vulnerable through socio-economic barriers are disproportionately affected with at least 90% having a prior history of sexual abuse with the average age of entry into commercial sexual exploitation 12-14 years old for girls and 11-13 years old for boys; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking victims are forced to work in various forms of labor exploitation including, but not limited to, commercial sex acts and other services that are induced through force, fraud, or coercion; and

**WHEREAS**, increased education about how to identify human trafficking along with increased knowledge of State resources and services for those affected by criminal exploitation can help decrease the number of future victims; and

**WHEREAS**, Solano County is striving to become a place where human trafficking does not exist and the basic human values of freedom, dignity and respect are available to all who live, learn, work and play within our borders and, moreover, is committed to creating legal frameworks for investigating human trafficking and prosecuting those engaged in it; and

**WHEREAS**, Human Trafficking Awareness Month is an opportunity to recognize the critical role we all play in preventing, reporting, and adjudicating these heinous crimes.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Solano County Board of Supervisors hereby designates month of January 2019 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month and encourages all residents to learn more about the issue of human trafficking and become part of the solution.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019

JOHN M. VASQUEZ, Chair Solano County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: BIRGITTA E. CORSELLO, Clerk Solano County Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Jeanette Neiger, Chief Deputy Clerk