



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama's Human Trafficking Awareness Month was established in January 2011 in observance of National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, to proclaim the equality and freedom of all people, to advocate for legislation, to educate leaders and to encourage public awareness to the various forms of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking occurs when an adult or child is recruited, harbored, obtained or exported through force, fraud or coercion for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labor, involuntary servitude, debt bondage and other methods of slavery; and

WHEREAS, the United States government estimates between 600,000 to 800,000 individuals are trafficked across international borders each year and exploited through forced labor and forced sexual activity; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Institute Against Human Trafficking states that the United States is the number one consumer of commercial sex worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children estimates between 100,000 and 300,000 children are at risk for being trafficked in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, The University of Alabama identified 1,167 human trafficking victims within the state of Alabama with 57% of those being minors; and

WHEREAS, Polaris estimates that the national age of entry into the sex trade is 17 years old. Here in Alabama, Homeland Security has identified victims as young as nine;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim January 2023, as

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 28th day of December 2022.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor