



State of Wisconsin  
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1410/1  
CMH:cdc

## 2023 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 9

January 27, 2023 - Introduced by Senators L. JOHNSON, JAMES, ROYS, TAYLOR, CARPENTER, CABRAL-GUEVARA, JACQUE, HESSELBEIN, LARSON, AGARD, SPREITZER, BALLWEG, MARKLEIN and WIRCH, cosponsored by Representatives BILLINGS, KITCHENS, DRAKE, PENTERMAN, SPIROS, EMERSON, BALDEH, SCHUTT, TITTL, CONLEY, MURSAU, VINING, HAYWOOD, DITTRICH, ARMSTRONG, MURPHY, NOVAK, BEHNKE, O'CONNOR, SHANKLAND, MOORE OMOKUNDE, RIEMER, SHELTON, CONSIDINE, JOERS, TUSLER, SUBECK, STUBBS, HONG, ROZAR, MADISON, CLANCY, ANDRACA, ALLEN, C. ANDERSON, ORTIZ-VELEZ and DONOVAN. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** proclaiming January 2023 as human trafficking awareness and  
2           prevention month.

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

6           Whereas, human traffickers disproportionately target at-risk populations,  
7     including individuals who have experienced or been exposed to other violence, such  
8     as child abuse and maltreatment and community violence, and those who are  
9     disconnected from support networks, such as runaway and homeless youth,  
10    unaccompanied minors, and persons displaced by natural disasters; and

11          Whereas, since 2007 more than 82,000 total cases of human trafficking have  
12    been reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, including 796 in  
13    Wisconsin; and

14          Whereas, the average age a trafficking victim enters the sex trade in the United  
15    States is from 12 to 14 years old; and

1           Whereas, in 2021, an estimated one out of six endangered runaways reported  
2 to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children were likely child sex  
3 trafficking victims, 70 percent of all trafficking victims are female, and 50 percent  
4 of victims are children; and

5           Whereas, a 2019 U.S. State Department report found that advocates reported  
6 a growing trend of traffickers targeting people with disabilities and an increase in  
7 the use of social media platforms to recruit and advertise victims of human  
8 trafficking; and

9           Whereas, human trafficking has been reported in all 72 counties in the state,  
10 and it is a crime found in rural, urban, and suburban communities; and

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

14           Whereas, to combat human trafficking in our state, our citizens must be aware  
15 of the realities of human trafficking, educated to recognize victims of human  
16 trafficking, and dedicated to stopping it; and

17           Whereas, a resolution passed by the U.S. Senate on June 22, 2007, has forever  
18 marked January 11 as a day of awareness and vigilance for the countless victims and  
19 survivors of human trafficking around the world; and

20           Whereas, Wisconsin has zero tolerance for human trafficking, and eliminating  
21 human trafficking is a goal shared by all Americans who believe in freedom and  
22 liberty for all people; now, therefore, be it

