



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery and is a crime against humanity that violates the most basic human rights and deprives victims of their freedom; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking affects as many as 27 million people worldwide, including an estimated two million children who are trafficked; and

WHEREAS, human traffickers target men, women, and children, both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals, isolating them from society and supportive networks and exploiting them for personal and monetary gain; and

WHEREAS, victims of human trafficking suffer emotional, psychological and physical horrors at the hands of their captors; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the world today and is tied with arms smuggling as the second largest international criminal industry; and

WHEREAS, Floridians are committed to protecting the vulnerable and ending human trafficking through continued prevention, prosecution, education, and awareness; and


WHEREAS, Floridians are committed to sending a strong message to perpetrators that Florida is a zero tolerance state for all forms of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, Floridians are committed to protecting victims' rights and restoring their dignity and freedom;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing January 2016 as *Human Trafficking Awareness Month*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 18th day of December, in the year two thousand fifteen.


Governor