

City of Albany

Proclamation

Designating January 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of forced labor or sexual servitude; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a \$32 billion a year global criminal enterprise and is a crime as well as a civil and human rights violation; and

WHEREAS, the United States government estimates that hundreds of thousands of individuals are trafficked across international borders each year and exploited through forced labor and forced commercial sexual activity; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. is a major destination country for international trafficking victims; and

WHEREAS, whether through violence, deceit, or the promises of a better life, some of the most vulnerable populations among us -- including migrants and refugees fleeing conflict or disaster, persons experiencing homelessness, LGBT youth, Alaska Natives, American Indian women and girls, and children in poverty -- are preyed upon by human traffickers; and

WHEREAS, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 criminalized human trafficking at the federal level; and

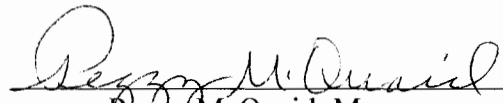
WHEREAS, more awareness and education is crucial to eradicating human trafficking in our communities, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed on January 11 in municipalities across the country in order to educate the public and raise awareness about human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albany has a strong commitment to social justice; and

WHEREAS, in order to rid the world of modern slavery we must do everything in our power to combat these violations of human decency.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim January 11, 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Day and January 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in the City of Albany. We urge the residents of Albany to support efforts and take action to end human trafficking.


Peggy McQuaid, Mayor

City of Albany Proclamation No. 2018-01