



Proclamation

WHEREAS, sex trafficking often affects the most vulnerable—runaways, those who have suffered sexual abuse in childhood, those who are groomed by a romantic partner, the emotionally broken, the poor, and the young; and

WHEREAS, January is proclaimed National Slavery and Human Trafficking Month to bring awareness to sex trafficking and to advocate for the estimated 25 million people who are being trafficked across the globe, including in the State of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Hawai'i passed a state law that explicitly bans sex trafficking, making it a violent crime and a Class A felony; and

WHEREAS, under Hawai'i state law, victims of sex trafficking can be placed in a support services network and/or in the state witness protection program; and

WHEREAS, in January 2019, the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women, along with the Arizona State University-Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research, published "Sex Trafficking in Hawai'i: The Stories of Survivors"—the state's first report on sex trafficking demographics in Hawai'i which documented the conditions that characterize sex trafficking in our state; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the state entities, social service providers and community advocates who are tirelessly working toward the elimination of sex trafficking in our state;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim January 2020 as

"SEX TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in raising awareness of sex trafficking in our communities, support survivors of sex trafficking, and work toward a day without commercial sexual exploitation.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this ninth day of January 2020.

JOSHUA B. GREEN
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i