

By: Stucky

H.R. No. 114

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Human trafficking is an insidious crime that
2 exploits the most vulnerable members of society, robbing victims of
3 their freedom and dignity and weakening the very foundation of our
4 communities; and

5 WHEREAS, As defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act
6 of 2000, human trafficking primarily occurs in the form of sex or
7 labor trafficking, which may be compelled through the use of force,
8 threats, deception, or other means of coercion; and

9 WHEREAS, Although anyone can fall victim to this crime,
10 certain populations are at higher risk due to a lack of prevention
11 and services, including boys and young men, people who have been
12 affected by sexual violence or prior abuse, people experiencing
13 poverty, homelessness, or unstable living conditions, and
14 individuals who are systemically marginalized and underserved;
15 victims can be trafficked in person and online, in industries such
16 as food service and construction, and by both strangers and people
17 they know, including intimate partners, parents, and other family
18 members; and

19 WHEREAS, The keys to preventing human trafficking include
20 raising awareness and building resilience within our communities,
21 reducing social inequities, and addressing the social determinants
22 of health in underserved populations; and

23 WHEREAS, Human trafficking requires a coordinated,
24 community-wide response, and one of the organizations working to

1 serve human trafficking victims in North Texas is Bob's House of
2 Hope in Argyle, which was founded by Robert "Bob" Williams in 2021;
3 Bob's House of Hope is the first safe house in the country dedicated
4 to adult male survivors of sex trafficking, and it endeavors to
5 provide person-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally and
6 linguistically appropriate care, along with other resources to help
7 these victims attain education and employment and rebuild their
8 lives; and

9 WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a violation of the fundamental
10 rights that are owed to every man, woman, and child, and the
11 observance of Human Trafficking Prevention Month calls on all of us
12 to affirm our commitment to preventing and responding to human
13 trafficking in our communities and to ensuring the safety,
14 security, and well-being of human trafficking survivors; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
17 Legislature hereby recognize January 2023 as Human Trafficking
18 Prevention Month and encourage all Texans to learn more about human
19 trafficking and the ways they can help the victims of this terrible
20 crime.