

By: Hunter

H.C.R. No. 68

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a serious and escalating
2 problem in the United States, particularly in Texas; and

3 WHEREAS, A multibillion-dollar business, human trafficking
4 is second only to drug dealing in criminal profitability and is the
5 fastest-growing illegal enterprise, according to the Polaris
6 Project, a Washington, D.C.-based organization that maintains the
7 National Human Trafficking Resource Center; it is estimated that
8 18,000 foreign nationals are trafficked into the United States each
9 year and that the number of U.S. citizens trafficked within our own
10 borders is even higher, with more than 200,000 American children at
11 high risk for trafficking into the sex industry; and

12 WHEREAS, Texas is a major point of illegal entry into the
13 United States; its large geographic size along with its
14 demographics make the Lone Star State appealing to traffickers, who
15 endeavor to blend into the population while exploiting their
16 victims in forced labor and prostitution; and

17 WHEREAS, Although Texas has been recognized as a leader in
18 the effort to end the scourge of human trafficking, eradication of
19 this modern-day form of slavery is a difficult challenge, and every
20 means of combating it should be explored; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
22 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house
23 of representatives to create a joint interim committee to study the
24 problem of human trafficking in Texas; and, be it further

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1 RESOLVED, That the committee submit a full report, including
2 findings and recommendations, to the 83rd Texas Legislature when it
3 convenes in January 2013.