

By: Hunter

H.C.R. No. 57

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 as  
8 many as 17,500 foreign nationals are trafficked into the United  
9 States each year and that the number of U.S. citizens trafficked  
10 within our own borders is even higher, with more than 200,000  
11 American children at high risk for trafficking into the sex  
12 industry; and

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

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

22 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas  
23 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house  
24 of representatives to create a joint interim committee to study the

1 problem of human trafficking in Texas; and, be it further

2           RESOLVED, That the committee submit a full report, including  
3 findings and recommendations, to the 84th Texas Legislature when it  
4 convenes in January 2015.