

1-1 By: Hunter (Senate Sponsor - Van de Putte) H.C.R. No. 57  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 29, 2013;  
 1-3 May 2, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal  
 1-4 Justice; May 21, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote:  
 1-5 Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 21, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Whitmire	X			
1-8 Huffman	X			
1-9 Carona			X	
1-10 Hinojosa	X			
1-11 Patrick	X			
1-12 Rodriguez	X			
1-13 Schwertner	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a serious and escalating  
 1-17 problem in the United States, particularly in Texas; and

1-18 WHEREAS, A multibillion-dollar business, human trafficking  
 1-19 is second only to drug dealing in criminal profitability and is the  
 1-20 fastest-growing illegal enterprise, according to the Polaris  
 1-21 Project, a Washington, D.C.-based organization that maintains the  
 1-22 National Human Trafficking Resource Center; it is estimated that as  
 1-23 many as 17,500 foreign nationals are trafficked into the United  
 1-24 States each year and that the number of U.S. citizens trafficked  
 1-25 within our own borders is even higher, with more than 200,000  
 1-26 American children at high risk for trafficking into the sex  
 1-27 industry; and

1-28 WHEREAS, Texas is a major point of illegal entry into the  
 1-29 United States; its large geographic size along with its  
 1-30 demographics make the Lone Star State appealing to traffickers, who  
 1-31 endeavor to blend into the population while exploiting their  
 1-32 victims in forced labor and prostitution; and

1-33 WHEREAS, Although Texas has been recognized as a leader in  
 1-34 the effort to end the scourge of human trafficking, eradication of  
 1-35 this modern-day form of slavery is a difficult challenge, and every  
 1-36 means of combating it should be explored; now, therefore, be it

1-37 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas  
 1-38 hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house  
 1-39 of representatives to create a joint interim committee to study the  
 1-40 problem of human trafficking in Texas; and, be it further

1-41 RESOLVED, That the committee submit a full report, including  
 1-42 findings and recommendations, to the 84th Texas Legislature when it  
 1-43 convenes in January 2015.

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