



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Office of the Governor

COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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## RESOLUTION 2023-08

**Encouraging the Alaska Departments of Law, Public Safety, Education and Early Development, Family and Community Services, and Labor and Workforce Development to strengthen awareness and preventative efforts to stop human trafficking through publications and education on what constitutes human trafficking, and through exploration of how departments can use their skills and expertise to be a part of the solution**

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights is the State of Alaska's civil rights enforcement agency charged with enforcing the Alaska Human Rights Act, AS 18.80 *et seq.*, as mandated by Article I, Section 3 of the Alaska Constitution; and,

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a global as well as a state issue; and,

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Commission on Civil Rights, "The trafficking of persons has frequently been described as a 'modern' or 'Twenty-First Century' form of slavery," and there are more "modern slaves" in the world today than at any other time in history; and,

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking includes the recruitment, transport, receipt, and harboring of people for the purpose of exploiting their labor and in which individuals are deprived of their freedom for little or no pay; and,

**WHEREAS**, labor trafficking constitutes 75% of all trafficking where the victims are primarily men, but sex trafficking is a primary concern of American Indians and Alaska Native Communities as 40% of women involved in sex trafficking identify as American Indian/Alaska Native or Canadian First Nations; and,

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking can happen to anyone, according to the Alaska Native Justice Center, who reported that "homeless youth in Anchorage were being trafficked at a rate of nearly 30%—a higher rate than any other city studied, including New York and New Orleans," and, "Nearly 45% of trafficked youth identified were Alaska Native;" and,

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking in the forms of labor trafficking, sex trafficking, and sexual exploitation can constitute a violation of both criminal statutes and civil rights laws; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Human Rights Act is generally regarded as one of the most comprehensive and progressive civil rights statutes in the United States, and therefore Alaska has the opportunity for leadership in the prevention of human trafficking; and,

**WHEREAS**, per AS 18.80.060, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights has a duty to study the problems of discrimination in specific fields of human relationships; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights may call upon the departments and agencies of the state, with the approval of the governor, for cooperation and assistance in carrying out its duties, including the duty of educating the public on the law, what constitutes discrimination, and how to prevent discrimination.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights calls on the Departments of Law, Public Safety, Education and Early Development, Family and Community Services, and Labor and Workforce Development to strengthen awareness and prevention efforts to stop human trafficking through publications and education on what constitutes human trafficking, and through exploration of how these departments can use their skills and expertise to be a part of the solution to human trafficking.

Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Governor of Alaska, the Attorney General, the Commission of Public Safety, the Commissioner of Education and Early Development, the Commissioner of Family and Community Services, and the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development.

**ADOPTED** in Anchorage, Alaska, this 22nd day of August, 2023.

DocuSigned by:  


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Zackary Gottshall  
Chairperson  
Alaska State Commission for Human Rights

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution 2023-08 is a true and accurate copy of the language adopted by the Commission on August 22, 2023.

  
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Gina Aumuvae  
Secretary  
Alaska State Commission for Human Rights