

# City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia  
Office of the Chief Clerk  
Room 402, City Hall  
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 120679)

## RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Committee on Public Safety to hold hearings to investigate Human Trafficking in the City of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, Human sex trafficking is the most common form of modern-day slavery. Estimates place the number of its domestic and international victims in the millions, mostly females and children enslaved in the commercial sex industry for little or no money; and

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is the fastest-growing business of organized crime and the third-largest criminal enterprise in the world; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of State, an estimated 9.5 billion is generated in annual revenue from all trafficking activities, with at least \$4 billion attributed to the worldwide brothel industry; and

WHEREAS, The United States not only faces an influx of international victims but also has its own homegrown problem of interstate sex trafficking of minors; and

WHEREAS, To combat human trafficking in this City, the people of Philadelphia must be aware of the realities of human trafficking and must be dedicated to stopping this contemporary manifestation of slavery; and

WHEREAS, According to a report from the Polaris Project, Pennsylvania has made nominal efforts to pass laws to combat human trafficking, and should take major steps to improve and implement its laws; and

WHEREAS, According to a report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Philadelphia is a high incidence area for Human Trafficking; and

WHEREAS, Efforts shall be made to actively oppose all individuals, groups, organizations and nations who support, advance or commit acts of human trafficking and to work to end human trafficking around the world through education and addressing the demand; and

WHEREAS, Victims of human trafficking need support in order to escape and to recover from the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual trauma associated with their victimization; and

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*RESOLUTION NO. 120679 continued*

WHEREAS, Although laws to prosecute perpetrators of human trafficking and to assist and protect victims of human trafficking have been enacted in the United States, awareness of the issues surrounding human trafficking by those people most likely to come into contact with victims is essential for effective enforcement because the techniques that traffickers use to keep their victims enslaved severely limit self-reporting; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That we hereby authorize the Committee on Public Safety to hold hearings to investigate Human Trafficking in the City of Philadelphia.

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*RESOLUTION NO. 120679 continued*

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*RESOLUTION NO. 120679 continued*

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the thirteenth of September, 2012.

Darrell L. Clarke  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Reynolds Brown

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Reynolds Brown, Blackwell, Jones, Greenlee, Goode, Bass, Quiñones Sánchez, Johnson, O'Brien, Kenney, Tasco, O'Neill and Henon