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KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion 15978

	Proposed No. 2021-0349.2 Sponsors Kohl-Welles and Dunn
1	A MOTION calling on the executive to support efforts to
2	combat human trafficking and the commercial sexual
3	exploitation of children through a public awareness
4	campaign.
5	Body
6	WHEREAS, human trafficking is thought by some to be modern-day form of
7	slavery in which people profit from the control and exploitation of others, and
8	WHEREAS, as defined under federal law, victims of human trafficking include
9	children involved in commercial sex trade, adults age eighteen or over who are coerced
10	or deceived into commercial sex acts, and anyone forced into different forms of "labor or
11	services," such as domestic workers held in a home, or farm workers forced to provide
12	their labor against their will, and
13	WHEREAS, human trafficking is considered to be one of the fastest-growing
14	criminal industries in the world, and
15	WHEREAS, human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of
16	children are serious crime problems on a worldwide basis, in Washington state and in
17	King County, and
18	WHEREAS, the average age of entry into commercial sexual exploitation in the
19	United States is between twelve and fourteen years old, and

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20	WHEREAS, children as young as eleven years old have been commercially
21	sexually exploited in King County, and
22	WHEREAS, over ninety-five percent of labor and sex trafficking victims
23	experience physical and sexual violence, and
24	WHEREAS, Washington state has been described as a focal point for the
25	recruitment, transportation and sale of people for labor, due in part to its abundance of
26	ports, proximity to an international border, vast rural areas and dependency on
27	agricultural workers, and
28	WHEREAS, Washington state was the first state to criminalize human trafficking,
29	in 2003, and
30	WHEREAS, in 2011, the Metro transit department began participating in the Safe
31	Place program to assist at-risk youth in finding support and services, and
32	WHEREAS, the Washington state Legislature has continued to pass strong anti-
33	trafficking laws, making Washington state a model for comprehensive anti-human-
34	trafficking laws, and
35	WHEREAS, in 2018 King County worked with private companies and other local
36	agencies, including the Port of Seattle and the city of Seattle, as well as airline
37	companies, to launch a Stop Human Trafficking campaign, which aimed to: raise public
38	awareness about the nature of human trafficking, how and where it occurs locally and
39	how to prevent and stop it; and help identify victims and survivors and promote access to
40	services, and decrease demand through awareness, and

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41	WHEREAS, following this public awareness campaign, Washington state has the
42	eighth-highest call volume to the National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2019, an
43	increase from being the thirteenth-highest state in 2018;
44	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
45	A. It is the intent of the King County council to continue King County's work to
46	raise awareness and combat human trafficking, in collaboration with businesses,
47	organizations and all levels of government, including the statewide public awareness
48	campaign to commence January 2022.
49	B. The King County executive is requested to continue to support the efforts of
50	the statewide public awareness campaign to prevent human trafficking. The public
51	awareness campaign should include, but not be limited to, posting anti-human-trafficking
52	public awareness materials in key transit corridors, the interior and exterior of buses,
53	transit centers and county-managed buildings and locations where public awareness of

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- 54 human trafficking could have an impact. The campaign should begin no later than
- 55 January 15, 2022, and extend through at least March 15, 2022.

Motion 15978 was introduced on 9/21/2021 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/16/2021, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Ms. Balducci, Mr. Dembowski, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Upthegrove, Mr. von Reichbauer and Mr. Zahilay Excused: 1 - Mr. Dunn

> KING COUNTY COUNCIL KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by: Auri

Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by Melani Kedro

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None

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Certificate Of Completion

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Melani Pedroza melani.pedroza@kingcounty.gov Clerk of the Council King County Council Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure: Not Offered via DocuSign

Holder: Cherie Camp Cherie.Camp@kingcounty.gov Pool: FedRamp Pool: King County General (ITD)

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