

WHEREAS, the United States was founded on the principle that all people are born with an unalienable right to freedom; and liberty and human rights are fundamental principles of our country; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is modern day slavery exercised through forced labor, debt bondage, servitude, and commercial sexual exploitation; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a \$150 billion dollar a year industry, second to drug smuggling, with over 20 million victims around the world of which, two million victims could be in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the victims of human trafficking are citizens and immigrants, men, women and children; and

WHEREAS, because traffickers see Florida as a transit destination and recruiting point, the State of Florida and local governments encourage the efforts of local agencies and organizations who protect against violations of human rights, especially victims of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the people of Florida must also work together to end human trafficking through education, prevention and prosecution while providing victims of human trafficking the support they need in order to recover from their victimization; and

WHEREAS, we must join together as a nation and global community to provide a safe haven by protecting victims and prosecuting the traffickers; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida continues to lead the nation in human trafficking awareness, training and legislative efforts to combat this crime; and

WHEREAS, the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking has allowed increased state, local, national and international cooperation to eradicate human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking allows state leaders to come together to help victims and survivors of human trafficking by establishing an appropriate and caring environment for recovery.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida do hereby recognize January 2017, as

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

in Florida and commend law enforcement, local governments and communities, and citizens for their support and efforts in combating this modern day slave trade and for remaining vigilant and cognizant of the issue in order to protect citizens and visitors of our great State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida have hereunto subscribed their names and have caused the Official Seal of the State of Florida to be hereunto affixed in the City of Tallahassee this the 24th day of January, 2017.

CK SCOT

PAM BONDI

JEF CHIEF

ADAM H. PUTNAM COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE