

SENATE RESOLUTION

8694

By Senator Hasegawa

1 WHEREAS, 2018 marks the 23rd anniversary of the senseless murders
2 of three Filipina-Americans, Susana Remata Blackwell, a mail order
3 bride and victim of domestic violence and in forced servitude, and
4 her two friends Phoebe Dizon, and Veronica Laureta inside the King
5 County Courthouse; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1999 Anastasia Solovieva-King from Kyrgyzstan was
7 murdered by her husband in Washington State in a separate incident of
8 human trafficking that resulted in domestic violence; and

9 WHEREAS, The tragic deaths of these women brought widespread
10 national media attention that elevated knowledge about the insidious
11 nature of forced servitude, fraud and coercion, and highlighted the
12 grim reality that forced servitude is a form of human trafficking
13 that often ends in violence; and

14 WHEREAS, Since 2001, the University of Washington Women's Center
15 under the leadership of Dr. Sutapa Basu began convening a conference
16 on human trafficking in Washington State and, in 2002, led efforts in
17 creating in statute the nation's first state task force against the
18 trafficking of persons; and

19 WHEREAS, Early awareness of the problems around trafficking in
20 Washington state was brought to light through tireless efforts led by
21 Emma Catague and former State Representative Velma Veloria, along
22 with others; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2003, the Washington State Legislature passed HB
2 1175, creating the crime of trafficking of persons on a state level,
3 the first of its kind in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, Since 2011, when President Obama proclaimed January
5 National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention month in
6 recognition that trafficking in persons is now the world's second-
7 largest and fastest-growing underground economy;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
9 recognize those people and organizations that fight daily against the
10 scourge of human trafficking, and encourage others to observe
11 National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention month with
12 appropriate ceremonies and activities to combat human trafficking.

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