SENATE RESOLUTION

8668

By Senator Brown

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a scourge that affects thousands of adults and children across the United States; and

WHEREAS, The United States is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children subjected to forced labor, debt bondage, document servitude, and sex trafficking; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, the number of human trafficking cases reported in Washington doubled between 2012 and 2017; and

WHEREAS, The National Human Trafficking Hotline has fielded over three thousand calls from Washington since 2007 and identified over one thousand five hundred potential victims of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, In a recent study by the Human Trafficking Institute, Washington ranked thirteenth in the nation for active cases in its federal courts; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Justice Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section reports twelve is the average age of entry into pornography and prostitution in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Child victims are often runaways and homeless youth; and

WHEREAS, The Attorney General maintains a web site intended to serve as a hub for victims of human trafficking, watraffickinghelp.org; and

WHEREAS, January serves as an ideal time to increase awareness and understanding for how to identify signs of human trafficking and act as a deterrent;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate encourage the people of Washington to be vigilant for signs of human trafficking and be aware of the state and federal resources related to deterring human trafficking.