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Res. 31363

Betsy Graef
LEG, WA BEST Initiative, RES
March 7, 2012
Version #~~1~~2

RESOLUTION 31363

A RESOLUTION supporting Washington's BEST (Businesses Ending Slavery and Trafficking) ~~Initiative~~Alliance, a business-led initiative to prevent human trafficking ~~which seeks to engage businesses on the issue of human trafficking~~ by adopting an anti-trafficking policy and ~~a code of conduct~~ a set of practices including: ~~that includes~~ assessing and managing trafficking-related risks and impacts, aligning business practices with ~~its anti-trafficking position~~the anti-trafficking policy, educating employees about ~~the issue~~ human trafficking, and training ~~them~~ employees to identify and report possible cases to law enforcement.

WHEREAS, the crime of human trafficking victimizes some of the most vulnerable members of society including children and immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Seattle has demonstrated leadership in fighting this crime by supporting laws to prohibit and punish human trafficking, by arresting and prosecuting human traffickers, and by connecting victims of human trafficking to services; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the gravity of this crime, Seattle's Police Department has focused the work of its Vice and High Risk Victims section on both the arrest of perpetrators and victim recovery; and

WHEREAS, Seattle led our region in establishing The Bridge, the only dedicated residential recovery program for sex trafficked children in Washington state; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking continues to flourish in our region and strategic methods of prevention are needed to limit the ability of traffickers to operate; and

~~WHEREAS, traffickers often use local businesses to exploit their victims; and~~

WHEREAS, prevention of human trafficking requires education and awareness, as well as action, by all stakeholders, including local businesses ~~that have been used by human traffickers to commit their crimes~~; and

WHEREAS, local businesses are a powerful resource for preventing the crime of human trafficking ~~because they can~~when they train employees to identify and report suspicious activity appropriately; and

WHEREAS, local businesses can make their premises and operations unwelcoming and risky to human traffickers; and ~~better ensure their operations do not facilitate human trafficking; and~~

WHEREAS, ~~the Washington~~ BEST (Businesses Ending Slavery and Trafficking) ~~Initiative~~ is a business-led initiative that provides local businesses with an anti-trafficking policy and seven practices for businesses to implement in order to prevent and report the crime of human trafficking;~~anti-trafficking standards and implementation guidelines in its seven step code of conduct that can help businesses prevent the crime of human trafficking;~~

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THAT:

Section 1. The Seattle City Council acknowledges with appreciation those businesses that have already taken steps to prevent human trafficking, including those that have adopted the very recently established Washington BEST Code of Conduct.

Section 2. The Seattle City Council recognizes the vital role businesses can play in preventing human trafficking and encourages all businesses in Seattle, especially our small and medium size businesses, to adopt an anti-trafficking policy and the seven step Washington BEST Code of Conduct, and consider following its guidelines for full implementation.

Adopted by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2012, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this_____ day of _____, 2012.

_____

President _____of the City Council

Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2012.

_____

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

Betsy Graef
LEG, WA BEST Initiative, FISC
March 7, 2012
Version #1

Form revised: December 6, 2011

FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Betsy Graef/206-684-8806	Not Applicable

Legislation Title:
A RESOLUTION supporting Washington's BEST (Businesses Ending Slavery and Trafficking) Initiative which seeks to engage businesses on the issue of human trafficking by adopting an anti-trafficking policy and a code of conduct that includes assessing and managing trafficking-related risks, aligning business practices with its anti-trafficking position, educating employees about the issue, and training them to identify and report possible cases to law enforcement.

Summary of the Legislation:
This resolution acknowledges businesses that have taken steps to prevent human trafficking, including those that have adopted the Washington BEST Code of Conduct. It recognizes the vital role businesses can plan in preventing human trafficking and encourages businesses to adopt an anti-trafficking policy and the seven step Washington BEST Code of Conduct, and consider following its guidelines for full implementation.

Background:
Not Applicable

Please check one of the following:

_X_ **This legislation does not have any financial implications.**

____ **This legislation has financial implications.**

Other Implications:

a) **Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?**
Not Applicable.

b) **What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?**
Not Applicable.

c) **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
No.

d) **What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?**
Not Applicable.

e) **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**
Not Applicable.

f) **Is publication of notice with The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times required for this legislation?**
No.

g) **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**
No.

h) **Other Issues:**

List attachments to the fiscal note below:

Not Applicable