

Senate Resolution 588

By: Senator Unterman of the 45th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January as Human Trafficking Month at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the commercial exploitation of human life is a horrific crime perpetrated by
4 men and women who choose to exploit children and adults alike for both sexual and labor
5 servitude; and

6 WHEREAS, human trafficking is both a global and local problem and has many long-lasting
7 effects on its victims, including an increased risk of injury, sexual assault, infectious disease,
8 substance misuse, untreated chronic medical conditions, malnutrition, post-traumatic stress
9 disorder, depression, homicide, and suicide; and

10 WHEREAS, with the help of Senator Renee Unterman, Georgia has made meaningful
11 progress through legislation to penalize traffickers, aid victims, and reduce trafficking,
12 including expansion of the existing child abuse reporting system, efforts to keep victims out
13 of the penal system and fund their recovery and treatment, and extension of the statute of
14 limitations for certain crimes against children; and

15 WHEREAS, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes
16 (CEACC) Unit's main missions are to detect, investigate, and assist in the prosecution of
17 those who exploit children via the Internet and to conduct all digital forensic analysis and
18 processing related to criminal activity for GBI and Georgia law enforcement agencies; and

19 WHEREAS, the CEACC Unit has secondary missions as well, including but not limited to
20 the provision of Internet safety education to the community, the education and training of law
21 enforcement on indicators of human trafficking and investigative techniques related to all
22 child exploitation crimes, and investigation of computer crimes related to intrusions into the
23 state network; and

24 WHEREAS, from January 1 through September 20, 2017, the CEACC Unit has served or
25 assisted in serving 129 search warrants, conducted 112 "knock and talks" for cases in which
26 search warrants were not obtained, and assisted in the serving of 172 search warrants at the
27 request of other GBI work units and other law enforcement agencies in order to process
28 digital devices for evidence; and

29 WHEREAS, the CEACC Unit planned and conducted 61 training events in 2017 for law
30 enforcement agencies and community partners in child exploitation, Internet safety
31 presentations, and digital forensic investigations; arrested 96 persons; and conducted two
32 major proactive operations.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 recognize January as Human Trafficking Month at the state capitol.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
37 press.