

RESOLUTION

REAFFIRMING REPUBLICANS' OPPOSITION TO SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SUPPORTING PRIVATE FACILITIES IN HAWAI'I

Whereas, Human trafficking destroys the lives of millions of people around the world, and is a crime that knows no borders and ranges from forced labor to forced commercial sexual exploitation to involuntary domestic servitude, resulting in victims held against their will to endure this horrible crime; and

Whereas, There are more slaves today than ever before in our world's history, including, an estimated 12.3 million people, 56 percent of whom are women. The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimated that in 2005, 980,000 to 1,225,000 children were in forced labor situations because of trafficking; and

Whereas, The victims of trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and that women and girl victims are often subject to multiple forms of discrimination and violence, including on the basis of their gender, age, ethnicity, culture and religion, as well as their origins, and that these forms of discrimination may themselves fuel trafficking in persons; and

Whereas, Trafficking in persons and children violates human rights and impairs the enjoyment of them, and continues to pose a serious challenge to humanity, requires a concerted international assessment and response, and genuine multilateral cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination for it to be eradicated; and

Whereas, Private facilities such as Courage House are able to help young victims of sex trafficking in Hawaii are now being planned, supported, and funded with contributions, and that authorities have been lax in prosecution while also having physical contact with the victims and not arresting the slavers, while in Hawai'i hundreds of local victims are abused each year; and

Whereas, There is currently no long term residential home in Hawai'i specific to meet the unique needs of these underage female victims and Courage House is now in the process of building a facility on Oahu with contributions, and juveniles victims must be decriminalized to be protected; now, therefore be it

Resolved, The Hawai'i Republican Party in convention in Honolulu May 17, 2014 reaffirms that Hawai'i has an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent trafficking in persons, to investigate and punish perpetrators, and to have stricter enforcement by police of present laws without physical interaction with victims of sex trafficking; and

Resolved, That failure to rescue victims and to provide for their protection violates, impairs, or nullifies their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and failure to give underage females a place to recover safely away from slavers in a private facility like Courage House Hawai'i, and offer each resident a unique life plan that brings healing to her body, mind, spirit and emotions, is unconscionable; and

Resolved, That Hawai'i Republicans support a Safe Harbor Bill to allow juvenile victims to be helped away from traffickers and not have records of arrest, assisted by federal law enforcement in cases of interstate trafficking; and

Resolved, That slavers, pimps and others associated with the crime of trafficking be punished severely; and, be it finally

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be posted on the Hawai'i Republican Party website and distributed to Hawai'i elected officials, Hawai'i's Chiefs of Police, and media for public dissemination.