

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

January 6, 2026

Proclaiming January 2026 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month

January marks National Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Established in 2010 by President Obama, this month emphasizes our shared responsibility to combat human trafficking and to ensure survivors have access to safety, services, and justice. Human trafficking, encompassing both labor and sex exploitation, continues to affect communities throughout Los Angeles County, often remaining unseen due to fear, coercion, language barriers, or a lack of awareness about available support.

This motion builds upon longstanding Los Angeles County and regional efforts to address human trafficking, particularly in the San Gabriel Valley and Pomona areas. In 2017, Los Angeles County convened a sex trafficking symposium in the City of Pomona that brought together County departments and community partners to examine survivor services, prevention efforts across community and law enforcement, and the infrastructure needed to respond more effectively.

As part of its ongoing work to address human trafficking, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on October 17, 2023, passed a motion¹ directing departments to assess the County’s response to human trafficking and develop recommendations

¹ <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/185183.pdf>

MOTION

Mitchell	_____
Horvath	_____
Hahn	_____
Barger	_____
Solis	_____

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grounded in a public health framework. The Board further advanced this work on February 4, 2025, by passing a motion² that moved forward key recommendations directing feasibility studies to establish a countywide human trafficking prevention coordinating body and a collaborative, systematic human trafficking data collection and sharing system. These actions respond to ongoing trafficking vulnerabilities in areas such as the San Gabriel Valley and East Hollywood, where newly arrived immigrants often face heightened risk due to language barriers, financial instability, and immigration-related concerns.

Furthermore, Los Angeles County has taken significant steps to combat human trafficking through survivor-centered, cross-departmental efforts. These include child welfare and youth-focused interventions led by the Department of Children and Family Services, criminal investigations conducted by the Sheriff's Department, prevention and intervention strategies implemented through Public Health, and victim-centered prosecution and support services provided by the District Attorney's Office. Collectively, these initiatives demonstrate the County's understanding that trafficking is a complex issue affecting public health and safety, requiring coordinated efforts for prevention, protection, and recovery.

The Los Angeles County also addresses labor trafficking and exploitation through the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs' Office of Labor Equity, which

² <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/199931.pdf>

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protects workers through education, outreach, enforcement of labor standards, and connection to County services. As part of National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, the Office of Labor Equity and its partners that include the District Attorney's Office, Los Angeles Worker Center Network, and Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative at Loyola Law School are running targeted awareness campaigns to help workers and the public recognize trafficking signs and access support.

The necessity for consistent, year-round education and outreach is especially critical as Los Angeles gears up to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup and the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Large-scale international events tend to boost the need for temporary, subcontracted, and low-wage labor in sectors such as construction, hospitality, transportation, and event services, which are often at risk of exploitation and trafficking. It is vital to implement proactive awareness campaigns, educate workers, and highlight available County resources to prevent harm before it happens and ensure individuals know where to turn for help.

Proclaiming January as Human Trafficking Prevention Month in Los Angeles County highlights the County's ongoing commitment to prevention, emphasizing that awareness, outreach, and access to services should remain a priority year-round, especially as the region faces increased economic activity and global attention.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Declare January 2026 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month across Los Angeles County.

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2. Encourage Chief Executive Office (CEO) Countywide Communications and all County Departments' communications to promote the following throughout the County for the rest of the year:

- a. The Office of Labor Equity's human trafficking campaign which raises public awareness about human trafficking and labor trafficking by amplifying the voice of survivors and educates its audiences on the signs, realities, and lived experience of trafficking, while promoting prevention and access to supportive services.
- b. County resources and services available to survivors for human trafficking, (both labor and sexual exploitation), through the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Public Health, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office, other county agencies, and other County and community partners that provide services to human trafficking survivors.

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