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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: February 28, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ENHANCING DETECTION OF HUMAN
TRAFFICKING ACT**

Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) provide a resolution in support of United States House Bill 443, also known as the Enhancing Detection of Human Trafficking Act.

Please contact our office if we can be of any further assistance.

BY MEMBER ANGELA WHITFIELD-CALLOWAY

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ENHANCING DETECTION OF HUMAN
TRAFFICKING ACT**

WHEREAS On February 5, 2024, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.B. 443, also known as the Enhancing Detection of Human Trafficking Act, introduced by Michigan Congressman Tim Walberg's with bipartisan support from its cosponsors, Representatives Slotkin, Wagner, Donalds, Houchin, and De La Cruz; and

WHEREAS The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and it seeks to strengthen the federal government's ability to recognize and crack down on human trafficking by requiring, among other things, the Secretary of Labor to provide training to Department of Labor employees on how to recognize instances of human trafficking and refer the cases to law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS Despite a growing public awareness of human trafficking, the horrific trade of human beings for slave labor and sex continues to be a persistent threat to security, public safety, and human dignity in the U.S. and across the globe; and

WHEREAS The U.S. Department of State estimates that there are roughly 27 million victims of human trafficking at any given time,¹ and the Department of Homeland Security estimates that traffickers make \$150 billion annually;² and

WHEREAS Detroit has experienced persistent cases of human trafficking, especially during large events that draw in people from other states and countries, due in part to its proximity to an international border; and

WHEREAS According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline (NHTH), Michigan is regularly in the top 10 states for human trafficking with over 2,455 cases and 5,367 victims identified since the NHTH was created in 2007; and

WHEREAS The Detroit City Council remains dedicated to eradicating human trafficking in all of its forms, which represents a disproportionate threat to women, people of color, and marginalized communities; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED The Detroit City Council hereby strongly urges the United States Congress to pass the Enhancing Detection of Human Trafficking Act, **NOW BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED That the Detroit City Clerk send a copy of this resolution to the Michigan delegation to the United States Congress.

¹ <https://www.state.gov/humantrafficking-about-human-trafficking/>

² <https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/2022-02/CCHT%20Annual%20Report.pdf>