

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1

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2001 Regular Session
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(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Lawlah**
Requested: August 23, 2000
Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2001
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act**

3 FOR the purpose of supporting the principles of the federal Trafficking Victims
4 Protection Act of 2000.

5 WHEREAS, On October 28, 2000, President Clinton signed into law major
6 legislation, the "Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000", to combat trafficking of
7 persons, especially into the sex trade, slavery, and slavery-like conditions in the
8 United States and countries around the world through prevention, prosecution and
9 enforcement against traffickers, and protection and assistance to victims of
10 trafficking; and

11 WHEREAS, An estimated 45,000 to 50,000 women and children are trafficked
12 annually to the United States for "the sex industry and for labor"; and

13 WHEREAS, Trafficking in persons is increasingly perpetrated by organized,
14 sophisticated criminal enterprises; and

15 WHEREAS, Existing laws often fail to protect victims of trafficking; and

16 WHEREAS, Victims are often illegal immigrants in the destination country,
17 they are repeatedly punished more harshly than the traffickers themselves; and

18 WHEREAS, Adequate services and facilities do not exist to meet victims' needs
19 regarding health care, housing, education, and legal assistance; and

20 WHEREAS, The State of Maryland recognizes the inherent dignity and worth of
21 all people; and

22 WHEREAS, Current practices of sexual slavery and trafficking of women and
23 children are abhorrent to the principles upon which the United States was founded;
24 now, therefore, be it

25 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND**, That the
26 General Assembly of Maryland strongly supports the principles of the "Trafficking
27 Victims Protection Act of 2000"; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
2 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.
3 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;
4 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin,
5 Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and
6 Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
9 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
10 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
11 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.