

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 318

Raising awareness of modern day slavery.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 26, 2023

Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to
the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Raising awareness of modern day slavery.

Whereas it is estimated that tens of millions of children, women, and men around the world are subjected to conditions of modern day slavery;

Whereas it is estimated that human trafficking, both sex trafficking and forced labor, generate more than \$150,000,000,000 in illicit profits for the traffickers and those who help facilitate the crime;

Whereas the International Labour Organization 2021 Global Estimates Report indicates there are 49,600,000 people in modern day slavery, including 27,600,000 in forced labor and 22,000,000 in forced marriage;

Whereas the 2021 Global Estimates Report indicates modern day slavery is only rising, increasing by more than 9,000,000 since 2016;

Whereas, despite being outlawed in every nation, modern day slavery exists around the world, including in the United States;

Whereas, out of the 28,000,000 people trapped in forced labor, 17,300,000 people are exploited in the private sector, 6,300,000 people are in forced commercial sexual exploitation, and 3,900,000 people are in forced labor imposed by state authorities;

Whereas, around the world, 55 percent of forced labor victims are women or girls;

Whereas more than 12,000,000 of the individuals trapped in modern day slavery are children;

Whereas an estimated 22,000,000 people were living in forced marriage on any given day in 2021, with women and girls making up 14,900,000 of the total;

Whereas the Department of State 2022 Trafficking in Persons Report identifies governments with a “documented ‘policy or pattern’ of human trafficking, trafficking in government-funded programs, forced labor in government-affiliated medical services or other sectors, sexual slavery in government camps, or the employment or recruitment of child soldiers,” including the Governments of Afghanistan, Burma, the People’s Republic of China, Cuba, Eritrea, Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Russia, South Sudan, Syria, and Turkmenistan;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China’s Government policies are separating 800,000 to 900,000 Tibetan children from their families and communities to eliminate Tibetan identity and supplant it with a Chinese nationalist identity to neutralize any resistance to Chinese Community Party rule;

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China's exploits and profits from over 1,000,000 Uyghurs detained and subjected to forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region;

Whereas there are reports of Ukrainians being forcibly removed to remote areas of Russia;

Whereas the International Criminal Court issues arrest warrants for Russian officials for the kidnapping and deportation of Ukrainian children;

Whereas the Washington Institute for Defense and Security report on modern day slavery indicates that displaced Ukrainian women are being forced into sex slavery and domestic servitude;

Whereas the Trafficking in Persons Report indicates that forced labor is part of an established system of political repression and a pillar of the economic system in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

Whereas North Koreans are systematically forced into labor overseas, primarily in Russia and China, in violation of United Nations Security Council resolutions;

Whereas the Trafficking in Persons Report indicates that the Government of Iran condones and, in some cases, directly facilitates sex trafficking of Iranian adults and children;

Whereas human trafficking, modern day slavery, and forced labor are evil and stand at the center of global and national security concerns;

Whereas the United States Government, along with international allies, organizations, and private sector businesses, is working to prevent forced labor and modern day slavery in global supply chains;

Whereas, every year since 2010, the President of the United States has designated the month of January as “National Human Trafficking Prevention Month”; and

Whereas the United Nations recognizes July 30 as “World Day against Trafficking in Persons”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates July 30, 2023, as World Day
3 against Trafficking in Persons;

4 (2) commends each individual who supported
5 the month of January as “National Human Traf-
6 ficking Prevention Month”;

7 (3) notes the dedication of individuals, organi-
8 zations, and governments to end modern day slavery;
9 and

10 (4) calls for concerted, international action to
11 bring an end to modern day slavery around the
12 world.

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