

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 179

BY SENATOR MIZELL

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, Department of Transportation and Development, and Department of Revenue, office of alcohol and tobacco control, to post on their websites, a sample posting with information regarding the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline in Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese.

WHEREAS, Louisiana law requires that the Louisiana Department of Health, Department of Transportation and Development, and Department of Revenue, office of alcohol and tobacco control, post a sample poster on their websites for those businesses they oversee that are required by law to post such notices in a prominent location within the building; and

WHEREAS, as a result of greater tourism in Louisiana, there exists a greater diversity of languages spoken by the population since the last decennial census, including Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese; and

WHEREAS, there has been a thirty-two percent increase in the Asian population in Louisiana since the last decennial census; and

WHEREAS, victims of human trafficking are just as likely to be foreign as native to Louisiana, and potentially unable to speak or read English; and

WHEREAS, the addition of the languages of Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese will allow more victims to come forward and receive the protections and services needed to escape the harmful environment in which they find themselves; and

WHEREAS, these language barriers create additional grounds for exploitation of an already vulnerable population.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health, Department of Transportation and Development, and Department of Revenue, office of alcohol and tobacco, to post on their websites a sample posting with information regarding the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline in Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE