

RECREATION, LIBRARIES, AND AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

10-0661R

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DULUTH SEXUAL TRAFFICKING TASK
FORCE.

BY COUNCILOR GARDNER:

WHEREAS, sexual trafficking and exploitation is a major problem shown to affect the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities and society; and

WHEREAS, historically Duluth has led the country by creating "The Duluth Model" power and control wheel, which depicts abusive behavior and responses which helps victims understand the patterns contributing to the cycle of violence in their lives; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2006, the Minnesota department of health reported that government spending on sexual assault perpetrators and victims was \$221,000,000; and

WHEREAS, sexual trafficking victims in Duluth do not have adequate resources to combat the cycle of prostitution and trafficking which prevents victims from moving forward with their lives and identify the crime to help promote enforcement and ultimately prevention; and

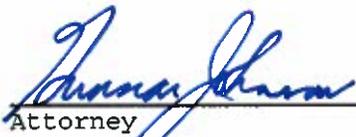
WHEREAS, organizations in Duluth, including the Program to Aid Victims of Sexual Assault, the American Indian Community Housing Organization, the American Indian Commission, the Domestic Abuse Intervention Program, the Life House, the city of Duluth police department and other organizations recognize and have identified there is a serious problem with sexual trafficking and sexual violence and have formed the Duluth trafficking task force to address ways to prevent and resolve the problem; and

WHEREAS, current law for people who solicit and purchase trafficked women is not adequate to deter this destructive behavior.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Duluth city council supports the work of the Duluth trafficking task force by encouraging community participation in the task force to work to raise community awareness, encourage policies to

promote prevention, identify and reduce the demand fueled by internet predators, and work with law enforcement to focus on enforcement and prevention of trafficking related crimes.

Approved as to form:



Attorney

CCREQ/ATTY GBJ:dma 12/14/2010

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to raise community awareness of sexual trafficking and sexual violence and show city council support of the Duluth Sexual Trafficking Task Force.