

April 2, 2024

Councilmember Mackenzie Kelly, District 6
Austin City Council
301 W 2nd Street, Suite 2117
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Council Members,

Just One Child, a non-profit that works to prevent child trafficking and exploitation, is pleased to be able to support Councilmember Kelly's resolution. Fighting the heinous activities of human trafficking requires a collaborative effort between law enforcement, agencies, businesses, and the public. Holding law enforcement, agencies, and employers to a clear standard of prevention activities, as well as offering awareness and educational opportunities to the public, are important steps toward prevention.

Our stance is that to fight human trafficking, one must be able to recognize and understand behaviors connected with trafficking. This resolution presents a comprehensive strategy of prevention, victim services, and survivor support. We value the focus on offering community resources to stop human trafficking. Additionally, we appreciate the focus on offering community members resources to stop human trafficking and commend this resolution for proving that real prevention work is necessary to spare people from a lifetime of recovery. More cities need to take similar actions to protect their communities from the devastation of trafficking.

As one who knows firsthand the challenge of finding resources and support when a family member is victimized, I wish these types of programs and support had been available in my town when I was seeking help a few years ago. Just One Child fully supports this resolution and commends Councilmember Kelly for the comprehensive approach. We further urge Austin's City Council to give their support as well. By committing to making this a priority, you are protecting the rights, dignity, and lives of all community members.

Thank you for your effort toward this critical issue and your commitment to stand as a leader in the fight against human trafficking.

Sincerely,

Laurie Roe

Founder & President laurie@justonechild.ngo