RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DECLARING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2021 AS HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH.

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking is the act of illegally moving people, typically for the purposes of forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation, and is a modern form of slavery; and

WHEREAS, a Presidential Proclamation has been previously issued declaring January 2021 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Traditionally, during the month of January, advocates, organizations, and individuals unite to raise awareness about the issue of human trafficking.; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking is a nationwide public health and civil rights crisis. Its victims and survivors are everywhere, and are of all genders, ages, races, countries, and socioeconomic statuses; and

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Homeland Security, while Human Trafficking can happen to anyone, people who are already in vulnerable situations — including migrants and refugees fleeing conflict or disaster, homeless LGBT youth, women and girls, and children in poverty — are preyed upon and may be more likely to be targeted by traffickers; and

WHEREAS, the Polaris Project, which publishes data based on calls, text messages, webforms, emails and webchats with the National Human Trafficking Hotline, over 25 million people are trafficked worldwide, and South Florida is one of the highest incidences of Human Trafficking in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in order to help combat Human Trafficking, the Miami Beach Police Department allocates several officers to the Miami-Dade State Attorney Office Human Trafficking Task Force. Moreover, recognizing the importance of preventing and deterring Human Trafficking from happening in the City of Miami Beach, the Mayor and City Commission created a new section of the City Code, entitled, "Human Trafficking Public Awareness Signs," which established the requirement for the placement of Human Trafficking public awareness signs in certain designated establishments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach continues to strive to become a destination where Human Trafficking does not exist, where victims have opportunities available to them, and where all people are treated as fully human and worthy of a supportive community and freedom; and

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing principles, the Mayor and the City Commission wish to declare the month of January 2021 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month in the City of Miami Beach.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA that the Mayor and the City hereby declare the month of January 2021 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month in the City of Miami Beach

PASSED AND ADOPTED this <u>27TH</u> day of January, 2021.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Micky Steinberg)

TO AGE FOR 121/21 Attorney