

RESOLUTION NO. 19-R14

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 219 AND SENATE BILL 370, AMENDING FLORIDA STATUTE, SECTION 796.07 REQUIRING A **MANDATORY MINIMUM TERM OF INCARCERATION FOR PROSTITUTION OFFENCES INVOLVING VICTIMS OF "HUMAN TRAFFICKING"**; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, human trafficking is an international issue. It is a form of modern-day slavery in which human beings, including young children are controlled and exploited for profit; and

WHEREAS, trafficked persons most often come from positions of vulnerability. Perpetrators use force, fraud or coercion to establish control; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is right here in our own back yard; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 219 and Senate Bill 370 would amend Florida Statute, Section 796.07 Prohibiting Prostitution, by including "Human Trafficking" as a form of prostitution, and

WHEREAS, these bills would require a mandatory minimum term of incarceration for solicitation of prostitution offenses involving victims of human trafficking.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The foregoing precatory language is adopted as if set forth below.

SECTION 2: The City of Fort Pierce, Florida calls upon the Florida State Legislature to pass House Bill 219 and Senate Bill 370 during the 2019 Legislative Session, to ensure human traffickers are incarcerated for prostitution offenses for a mandatory minimum term, involving their victims under Florida Statute 796.07.

SECTION 3: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this Resolution has been duly adopted on this 1st day of April, 2019.

Linda Hudson, Mayor Commissioner

ATTEST:

Linda W. Cox, City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved as to Form
And Correctness:

Peter J. Sweeney, Esq.
City Attorney