Over the past several years, Los Angeles County has made significant efforts to combat the sex trafficking of minors across our region. Our departments have done an outstanding job of working together, and with law enforcement and outside agencies, to support the victims of this heinous crime and bring to justice those who buy and sell children for profit. Our state partners have supported legislation to increase penalties and provide funding for services for the young victims.

However, there is still much more to do to end this crime. The County is currently looking into ways to combat the "demand" side of child sex trafficking. And many people still are not aware that this crime is occurring right here in our neighborhoods. We must continue to shine a light on this travesty by helping these children heal and keeping other children away from this. We also must bring those individuals responsible for their abuse and exploitation to justice.

-- MORE -

	<u>MOTION</u>
SOLIS	
RIDLEY-THOMAS	
KUEHL	
KNABE	
ANTONOVICH	

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors declare January to be National Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Los Angeles County.

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CB:jw