



**JOHN R. KASICH**  
GOVERNOR • STATE OF OHIO  

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**Communication Department**

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**KASICH APPLAUDS EFFORTS TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING, CALLS FOR  
CONTINUING THE FIGHT**

***Issues Proclamation in Honor of Human Trafficking Awareness Day***

COLUMBUS – In honor of the fourth annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day, today Governor John R. Kasich joined Ohio Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) and representatives of the National Association of Social Workers in applauding efforts by volunteers, human services leaders, law enforcement and others to combat human trafficking and again pledged his Administration’s help to keep up the fight. Kasich made the remarks about Ohio’s ongoing efforts to combat human trafficking at a Statehouse event attended by approximately 100 people where he also issued a proclamation today in honor of Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

In his proclamation Kasich wrote: “It is the responsibility of all members of a society to root out evil where it exists and protect and defend the innocent from those who would prey upon them.” A copy of the governor’s proclamation recognizing Human Trafficking Awareness Day can be viewed [here](#).

Each year in Ohio, more than 1,000 children are trafficked in the sex trade and over 3,000 youth are at risk of becoming victims. Kasich has worked with his Cabinet, the Ohio General Assembly and several stakeholder groups to fight human trafficking across the state. In March 2012, he signed [Executive Order 2012-06K](#) establishing the Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, which is spearheading efforts to raise awareness of this issue, educate Ohioans on how to prevent the crime, and identify opportunities to assist victims of human trafficking. In June 2012, Kasich signed House Bill 262 (Fedor) which raised penalties on human traffickers and put protections in place for human trafficking victims. Additionally, for the first time, the state has hired a human trafficking coordinator. Elizabeth Ranade Janis will begin work on Monday at the Department of Public Safety in its office of Criminal Justice Services.

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