

**Joint Resolution Supporting New Methods to
Combat Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jon Hawkins

Senate Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This resolution expresses support for new innovations and technology to combat human trafficking and domestic violence.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- recognizes the serious issues of human trafficking and domestic violence in the nation and in Utah;
- recognizes that transportation hubs play a major role in human trafficking and domestic violence;
- recognizes that new innovations and technology can help human trafficking and domestic violence victims request assistance; and
- expresses Utah's support for the advancement of new innovations and technology to combat human trafficking and domestic violence.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

WHEREAS, human trafficking and domestic violence are increasingly serious problems affecting numerous adults and children in the nation and in Utah;

WHEREAS, in 2024, the National Human Trafficking Hotline received more than 8,000 contacts from trafficking victims, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received over 26,000 reports of child sex trafficking;

WHEREAS, between 2020 and 2024, Utah agencies reported and prosecuted hundreds of human trafficking cases, identifying 91 child sex trafficking victims;

30 WHEREAS, multiple sources have found that traffickers often target individuals at
31 transportation hubs such as bus and train stations, or pass through these hubs when
32 transporting victims;

33 WHEREAS, the National Network to End Domestic Violence found that 59 million women
34 nationwide and over 30% of women in Utah have experienced sexual violence, physical
35 violence, or stalking in their lifetime;

36 WHEREAS, domestic violence can be lethal, as the Statewide Information and Analysis
37 Center recorded 52 domestic violence homicides between July 2023 and January 2025 in Utah;

38 WHEREAS, domestic violence abusers may limit their victims' access to methods of
39 communication and personal vehicles;

40 WHEREAS, isolation and fear can prevent a victim of human trafficking or domestic
41 violence from asking for help or notifying law enforcement;

42 WHEREAS, new innovations and technology, such as the use of rescue tracking equipment
43 placed in public restrooms at transportation hubs, can help human trafficking and domestic
44 violence victims discreetly request assistance and allow law enforcement to locate them; and

45 WHEREAS, Utah seeks to foster the development and use of new technology to help
46 mitigate harm from human trafficking and domestic violence in our state:

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah declares
48 state support for the advancement of new innovations and technology to combat human
49 trafficking and domestic violence.